

No 62,043

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

The great divide Why the Star Wars dream endangers Britain's relationship with the United States

Splendid isolation Enchil Powel reviews a new book calling for British neutrality

The yen to build Britain's growing property investments in Japan and the Far East

Musical memories Jack Brymer, now approaching 70, talks about his career and his music

Portfolio The Times Portfolio competition daily prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr Guy Faber of London

IRA man back at Commons Mr Gerry MacLochlainn, the convicted IRA terrorist whose visit to the House of Commons six weeks after the Brighton bombing caused an uproar, attended a meeting at the House to launch a campaign against the Prevention of Terrorism Act

Computer fever in Moscow Russians looked excitedly at an exhibition in Moscow of Western computers, but the Kremlin is still worried about the possible impact of electronic hardware on its ideological control of information

No option Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of Dunlop, and his two key executives have permanently abandoned plans for lucrative share option schemes Page 17

Waite's return Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy who returned to Britain from Libya, intends to go back next month to await the decision of the General People's Congress on four detained Britons

Talks shelved Mr Shridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, has called off his initiative for easing relations between Sri Lanka and India exacerbated by inter-communal tensions Page 7

Onshore oil The Government has given the go-ahead for the development of Humby Grove onshore oil field near Basingstoke, Hants. Oil is likely to flow in early 1988 Page 17

Watered down Bills to Thames Water Authority customers will show only a 3 per cent increase rather than the 10 per cent sought by the Government Page 4

Rugby first The first merit tables for English clubs to have the backing of the Rugby Football Union have come into existence Page 23

Leader page, 15 Letters: On the countryside, from Mr P. Giffard and Mr T. G. Hassall; Science cuts, from Professor D. C. Colley. Leading articles: Public spending, Syria.

Features, pages 10, 11, 14 Moscow's road back to Geneva; Laker bills for BA; In praise of the Young Moonlighters; Spectrum: Male make-up; Wednesday Page: 25 years of housewives' voice; Wolverhampton wonder, 12, 13 Celebrating its millennium; Wolverhampton is seeking a strategy to inject new life into the town. A Special Report. Obituaries, page 16 Professor Yusuf Lule, Sir Robert Taylor. Classified, pages 25-29 La Crème de la Crème, 25-27; Property 28, 29.

Thatcher orders three-year spending squeeze

By Sarah Hogg Economics Editor Real cuts in 1985-86, followed by two years of restraint, are proposed in the Government's new plans for public expenditure up to the next general election.

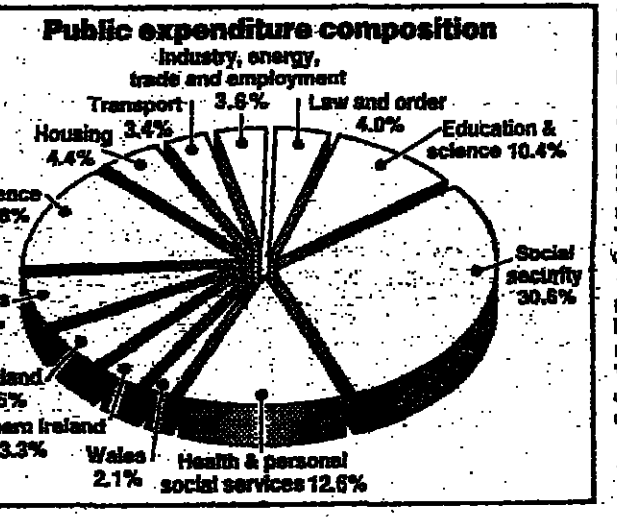
Among the economies signalled by yesterday's White Paper are steep increases in prescription charges, which are likely to rise by at least 35p this year and by much more than general prices during the next two years.

The White Paper suggests this would reduce public expenditure from 42.5 per cent of the nation's income this year to 39.5 per cent in 1987-88, likely to be the final year of this Parliament. However, this share would still be just as high as it was during Mrs Margaret Thatcher's first year of office.

The Government's aim is to keep public spending constant in "real terms" after allowing for inflation - between 1983-84 and 1987-88. The rate of inflation is assumed to decline slowly, to an annual rate of 3.5 per cent in 1987-88.

But the White Paper shows that public spending has risen constantly in real terms, by an average of 1.5 per cent a year since Mrs Thatcher took office.

Even if the Government's estimates are correct, public expenditure will have risen by 6.5 per cent this year, 1.75 per cent faster than inflation. To get back on its track, the Government is planning to increase spending by only 3.1 per cent in 1985-86, which means a real cut compared with its inflation forecast of 4.5 per cent in each of the following years.



Capital spending by the public sector as a whole is planned to decline in real terms each year until 1987-88. This was particularly criticized by both Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's economic spokesman, who said the White Paper offered nothing to the unemployed, and Mr Richard Wainwright, Liberal spokesman on the economy, who called them "fraud on the nation's children".

Banks step in to check dollar's rise

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Bailey Morris European central banks joined forces yesterday to reign back the dollar and support their own currencies in the foreign exchange markets ahead of figures showing that the United States economy last year grew at the fastest rate for three decades.

The dollar had been rising in anticipation of the strong economic statistics when about half-a-dozen central banks, including the Bank of England, stepped in. They succeeded in pushing the dollar back and their action took the pressure off the pound which had sunk as low as \$1.1150 and was looking shaky.

Five more years to pay for Trident

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent The Government has decided to spread the rocketing costs of the Trident nuclear deterrent system, now estimated at more than £10 billion, over 20 years instead of the initial 15 years.

The one-third increase in the timetable means that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, can balance his hard-pressed defence budget, but critics are bound to wonder how far the programme can be stretched if Trident's costs continue to escalate.

As far as the Ministry of Defence is concerned, the important issue is to maintain Trident expenditure at an average of 3 per cent of the defence budget.

Single stamp for Europe could be in sight

From Ian Murray, Brussels A single stamp for Europe could be on sale before the end of the year. Sold in every EEC country, it would carry a letter anywhere within the Community.

The idea is under serious discussion by the so-called "People's Europe" committee and is due for final approval at the European summit meeting in June. It has been put forward and designed by the British representative on the committee, Mr David Williamson.

The stamp depicts a map of the Community on the right-hand side, with its value in the left, complete with the conversion rate in local currencies. It would be identical in every country, so those sold in Britain would not carry the



Paper plans: Mr Peter Rees presenting the public spending White Paper (Photograph: John Manning)

'Observer' defends corruption case role

By Our Affairs Correspondent The Attorney General has informed The Observer newspaper that it is to be prosecuted for corruption in relation to offences for which a senior Ministry of Defence weapons expert was sentenced yesterday to six months imprisonment.

The prosecution comes after Mr Raymond Williams, aged 38, of Kingsmead West, Bath, was found guilty of corruptly receiving a total of £1,500 from The Observer in return for information he gave the newspaper while a senior executive officer at the Directorate of Weapons, Resources and Programmes.

It is understood that a decision will also be made within a few days on whether further charges should be brought against individuals at the newspapers.

Last night its editor, Mr Donald Trefford, defended its actions and said that it had been the subject of a "series of unfounded allegations" and "many untrue and misleading statements" about its methods and motives and integrity of its staff.

Asserting that "at no stage have we acted improperly" he said that the newspaper had evidence, some of it in documentary form, that gave overwhelming support for our position.

The whole truth had not emerged during the Bristol trial, he said. "We wrote to the police offering to assist in their inquiries but this offer was not taken up. Our evidence could have been made available to either the prosecution or the defence at the trial, but neither side chose to call it. As a result we have been unable to refute the statements made about us."

Commenting on a statement by defence counsel that The Observer had misled the police in its search for Williams, Mr Trefford said that when that witness, a police officer, was called, he said that the newspaper had been as helpful as it felt it could be in the circumstances. Trial report, page 3

Working miners in Yorkshire may quit NUM

From Peter Davenport, Wakefield The first tentative signs of a breakaway union movement in Mr Arthur Scargill's traditional heartland of the Yorkshire coalfield, began to emerge yesterday, after the setback in hopes of peace talks miners who have returned to work in the area are now openly threatening to leave the National Union of Mineworkers.

Over the past few weeks working miners have been meeting in secret to discuss the possibility of quitting the union and joining the new organization that will emerge in Nottinghamshire if that area is expelled from the national union later this month.

The moves will come to a head today when the men make their plans known at a press conference due to take place after a meeting with Mr Spencer Batiste, Conservative MP for the Yorkshire constituency of Elnet. They had also hoped for a senior official of the National Coal Board to attend but last night the board in Yorkshire said it had no plans to send anyone.

Last night one of the men behind the move Mr Terry Moore - an underground diesel engine driver at Allerton Bywater and the second NUM member to go back to work in Yorkshire - said: "If Nottinghamshire go, then we will follow them. And I am sure the majority of the miners now back at work will do so."

Today about 40 representatives from working pits in the North and South Yorkshire areas have been called to a meeting organized by Mr Ron

Catherall, a COSA member at Acton Hall colliery near Featherstone who has worked throughout the 46 weeks of the strike. Mr Catherall works processing concessionary coal supplies for 8,500 pensioners in the area. He is an official of the Conservative Trade Unionist movement, vice chairman of its energy group, and well known locally for his opposition to the strike.

He said he had been asked to help organize the meeting by Mr Moore and another working miner at Allerton Bywater, Mr Charles Pointon, a welder.

Mr Catherall said that a meeting held 10 days ago and attended by 150 working miners from throughout the Yorkshire coalfield was addressed by Mr Colin Clark of the National Working Miners' Committee. The first question everyone asked was how could they join the new federation in Nottinghamshire.

There was a feeling that if there are going to be two unions with one headed by Mr Scargill "then they would rather be in the other one," said Mr Catherall.

Mr Pointon said: "I think the Yorkshire NUM are in for a shock when they realize the depth of feeling against them."

"If Nottinghamshire go then so do we. But if the area is not expelled then we will stay in the union and work for the removal of Mr Scargill."

Talks move, page 2 Parliament, page 4 Cost of strike, page 5

Ethiopia hushes up outbreak of cholera in refugee camps

From Paul Valley, Addis Ababa officials of the Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission are refusing to admit that the disease is cholera. The camp's senior doctor, Dr Zekariam Hawaz, told me: "It is just acute diarrhoea and acute vomiting. When diarrhoea is that profuse they go into shock. It mimics the symptoms of cholera. They come down dramatically after fluids are given intravenously."

In the few minutes that it took him to state his case, four more victims were carried on stretchers into the open-sided hut which serves as his surgery. Three seemed lifeless. The fourth was a woman who lay like a bundle of sticks beneath a blanket and slowly opened and closed her mouth as if in noiseless weeping. Her dehydrated body could provide no tears to ease her suffering.

Western doctors in the camps and at relief agency supply centres in Addis Ababa were more forthright in their diagnosis. One, who had specialized in treating cholera in other Third World countries, was in no doubt. "It is a devastating disease. There is no mistaking it. In situations like this it just cuts through people like a scythe. But the Government here want to keep it quiet."

Private laboratory tests conducted by the French Medical organization, Médecins sans frontières, confirmed that the disease was cholera, he said.

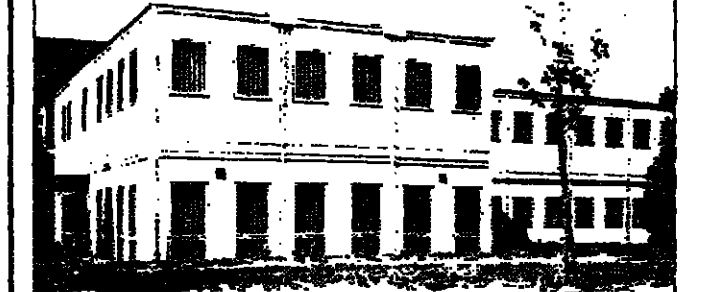
Few observers are surprised at the outbreak of a disease like this in Harbo. The camp is a collection of more than 300 tents only a few hundred yards from the main road, six hours' drive north of Addis Ababa. Its inhabitants are hopelessly overcrowded, 15 or 20 to a tent made for eight. Water is in short supply - the camp has to share a well and pump designed only to cater for fewer than half the number who use it now.

Continued on back page, col 3

Princess Anne in Epsom race

By Alan Hamilton Princess Anne, already an accomplished horsewoman over the jumps, is to ride her first flat race in April when she takes part in a charity event over the Derby course at Epsom.

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Coal board tries for peace talks as drift back continues

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board last night battled to keep alive the prospect of peace talks in the 46-week miners' strike, as more than 600 men abandoned the stoppage and the biggest pit in Northumberland resumed production.

The Trades Union Congress general council will this morning meet to determine whether the wider labour movement can give further help to the National Union of Mineworkers, and promote a resumption of the peace process that broke down yet again two nights ago.

They meet against a background of growing uncertainty within the executive of the miners' union on how the miners can make their strike stick. With 625 "new faces" back at work yesterday, 41 per cent of miners' union members are now defying their leaders, and a serious split over tactics may come to the surface.

Mr Michael Eaton, the coal board's chief spokesman, yesterday appealed to the miners' union to "think again" and return to the negotiating table with a commitment to accept that uneconomic mines had to close.

He, and government ministers, insisted that there had been no ministerial intervention to prevent the "talks about talks" being converted into full-scale bargaining between the two sides for the first time since last October.

"We hope in the interests of

Jobs threat to rail blacking of coal

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Trade union leaders and British Rail yesterday agreed a week's "breathing space" to see if any fresh initiatives can be bought forward to tackle the growing crisis in the railway freight operations because of the miners' strike.

A meeting of the Rail Council, the industry's top consultative body, adjourned after Mr Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, made clear that he expected the unions to drop their "blacking" of the carriage of coal and iron ore.

Union leaders leaving the meeting gave an indication that they are prepared to drop the action in the support of the miners, but senior BR managers are cautiously optimistic that there will be a revision of the unions' policy in the face of the threat of more than 600 jobs losses.

British Rail outlined the serious financial difficulties that have arisen because of the miners' strike, with revenue losses now amounting to more than £200 million. About 25 per cent of the 600,000 tonnes of coal being moved by road at the moment could be moved by rail if the unions dropped their action, the management claims.

The unions are expected to hold a meeting with the National Union of Mineworkers to discuss the BR threat to cut jobs and are hoping that there will be significant developments in the pits dispute which could influence their attitude at next week's re-convened meeting.

Civil Service union leaders claimed last night that two-thirds of the 7,000 staff at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) had either boycotted a ballot on the establishment of a staff association or voted against it.

The secret ballot at Cheltenham listening station and its outposts recorded 58.1 per cent of those voting in favour of the proposed constitution for the staff association and 41.6 per cent against. There was a 66.1 per cent response in the ballot.

The Council of Civil Service Unions, the umbrella body for the unions which until last March represented 4,500 staff at GCHQ, said that the numbers voting in favour of a staff association, about 2,700 was roughly the same as those who did not belong to a union before the union ban was introduced.

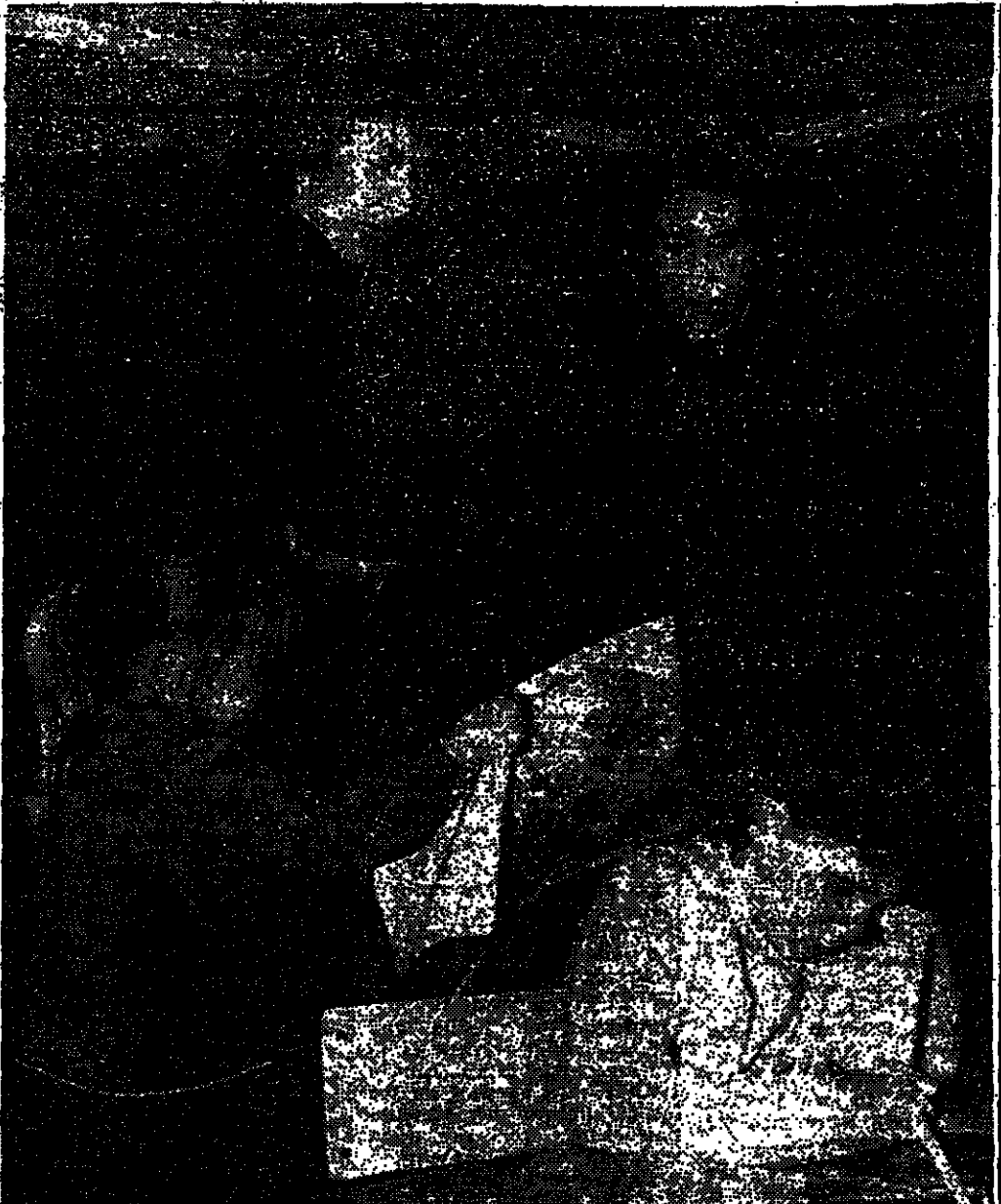
Leaders of all unions with members working in the National Health Service are meeting today to inject new life into the campaign against cuts in services and privatization.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, said yesterday that a week of action at the end of April, supported by the Trades Union Congress, would aim to "purge the poison of privatization."

Union leaders are growing increasingly concerned at the level of NHS privatization in some hospitals of work including cleaning, catering and laundry services, and the consequent threat to jobs.

The "National Health Focus Week" will involve meetings in hospitals and other workplaces, community events, and lobbies of MPs and local health authority members. The unions are linking the campaign against privatization in the NHS with similar campaigns in local government.

The Union of Communication Workers has called on its members in post offices in London to walk out on half day strike today in protest at plans to close 78 main post offices and 900 sub-offices around the country as part of the Post Office's rationalization plans.



Royal visitor: The Queen visited a village school on royal land yesterday and told the 30 children, that Sandringham House was "a bit of a warren".

The children were having a lesson in styles of architecture in front of a drawing of 274-room Sandringham House. The Queen added: "They just kept adding bits."

The Queen, seen with a teacher, Miss Elizabeth White, last visited Sandringham and West Newton Primary School with her mother and father 35 years ago. The two-classroom school was built in 1870 by the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII).

The 12 infants and 18 juniors were complimented by the Queen. Victoria Hardingham, aged eight, said: "The Queen told me my handwriting was very good."

Heritage lobby fights limit on tax deals

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The heritage lobby in and out of Parliament is conducting a fierce battle with the Government over the announcement that only £1m of art works are to be accepted in lieu of tax over the next year.

The scheme allows stately home owners to pay the vast capital transfer tax bills levied at a death by giving art treasures to the nation.

The Government has set a limit of £1m for works of art in 1985 and £1m for land and historic houses. In 1984 the total was £4m and an extra £2m was added to save Calke Abbey.

The announcement comes at a time when Kedleston, worth about £20, is on offer to the nation, the furniture made by Chippendale for Nostell Priory may have to be sold to satisfy a £4m tax bill and Lord Bradford has offered Weston Park to the nation in lieu of tax.

The scheme has been run by the Treasury but from April 1 it is to be taken over by the Museums and Galleries Commission, the national museum watchdog.

Works of art can be accepted in lieu of tax only if they are deemed "pre-eminent" in a national context. Guidelines in judging pre-eminence are:

- Does the object have a special association with our history or national life?
- Is the object of special artistic or art-historical interest?
- Is the object of special importance to the study of some particular form of art, learning or history?
- Does the object have a special association with a particular historic setting?

Safety laws breached, Sizewell inquiry told

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, which issues safety licences for nuclear power stations, was accused by Friends of the Earth yesterday of being in breach of its legal obligations.

Mr John Howell, the barrister representing the environment pressure group, told the public inquiry into the proposed building in Suffolk of the reactor (PWR) that the design should be rejected.

Mr Howell said that the issue of a licence to operate an untried nuclear reactor, as proposed by the Central Electricity Generating Board, should depend upon its meeting British safety standards.

He claimed that the proposed installation did not meet those standards and that the government safety inspectorate had not assessed the design in accordance with the Nuclear Installations Act.

A fourth man charged in connection with an alleged fraud involving an estimated \$125 million of stolen US social security cheques, was remanded in custody for a week yesterday, when he appeared at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in London.

Soo Chee Kim, aged 38, a Malaysian, whose address was given as the Bayswater Hotel, Bayswater, west London, is charged with conspiring with others between December 9 and January 14 to procure by deception the execution of US Treasury Department cheques, valued at \$125,275.

Kinnock told he is afraid of Scargill

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The latest failed attempt at negotiations to end the coal strike brought angry exchanges between the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Neil Kinnock drew to Mrs Margaret Thatcher's attention the National Union of Mineworkers' offer to enter negotiations without preconditions.

Mrs Thatcher replied that she had noticed the offer of talks allegedly without preconditions, but that she had noticed also that Mr Arthur Scargill had said again what he said at the start of the dispute, that the industry should not close pits on economic considerations.

Mr Kinnock said the Prime Minister should test the strength of the miners' undertaking by encouraging a return to the negotiating table.

Mrs Thatcher suggested that the initiative lay not with herself but with Mr Kinnock. If he wanted to end the strike, she said, he should ensure that the union withdraw the impossible demand that no uneconomic pits be closed.

Mrs Thatcher said Mr Kinnock should advise the union to accept the settlement terms put forward by the independent conciliation service, Acas. She then swapped insult for insult by taunting Mr Kinnock with being afraid of Scargill.

Parliament, page 4

Miners launch attempt to stop mass picketing

Working miners from South Wales yesterday launched their High Court bid to stop mass picketing in their area, their counsel, Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, said that 20 working miners had brought the action "to ensure their personal rights to go to work unhindered by unlawful picketing".

The hearing is expected to last four or five days.

A test case attempt by Mr Nicholas Bland, aged 26, a striking miner, to overturn the decision to the DHSS to stop £16 a week from his supplementary benefit was rejected by two High Court judges yesterday.

Lord Justice May, sitting with Mr Justice Taylor, said that they felt that Mr Bland, of Retford, Nottinghamshire, should make his claim through the department's appeals process.

Some Sheffield busmen have voted to defy their union and take working miners to pits in north Derbyshire.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, is to have a private meeting with Mr Ken Toon, general secretary of south Wales NUM, and his executive this morning in a last-ditch attempt to dissuade the area from making rule changes that would shield it from the authority of the national union.

Two haulage companies owned by Mr Richard Read and Mr George Read from Gloucestershire are to take action in the High Court over the alleged hijacking of their vehicles by NUM members at the Maxheat smelting fuel plant near Llantrisant, Mid-Glamorgan. Action by the firms in August led to the sequestration of South Wales NUM funds.

TGWU might pay strike damages

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The first tentative sign that Britain's biggest union may soften its defiance of labour laws emerged yesterday as Austin Rover pressed ahead with its plans to sue eight motor industry unions.

Mr Moss Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), did not rule out the possibility that his organization would pay any damages awarded to the company under the Trade Union Act of 1984 because of the two-and-a-half-week pay strike last year.

Mr Evans, whose union was fined £200,000 for contempt of court in December after authorizing the stoppage without a secret ballot, said that his executive would have to "cross that bridge when they come to it."

He said that the case could take two or three years to come to court and added that the union would be able to deploy a strong defence. A decision to defend itself in the case was the critical line with policy laid down by the union's biennial delegate conference, he said.

The TGWU and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers could each have to pay up to £250,000 in damages if

SDP talks on plastic bullet policy

By John Winder

The leadership of the Social Democratic Party is determined that the dispute in the party over the banning of plastic bullets should not lead to a big change in its policy-making machinery.

The Council for Social Democracy (CSD) will consider early in its Birmingham meeting at the weekend the policy committee's rejection of the motion the council passed last September at Buxton, after a death attributed to a plastic bullet in Belfast.

This urged the Government to suspend the use of plastic bullets, pending a full inquiry into their use in crowd control. The policy committee accepts the need for an inquiry but does not back the demand for a suspension in the interim.

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, has written to the Home Secretary calling for an inquiry into use of the plastic bullet.

The report from the policy committee to the conference this weekend says that several members of the council have argued since September that the motion passed then is SDP policy, because the council had approved it.

"The policy committee took the view that the constitution of the party was deliberately designed to prevent party policy ever being determined without careful deliberation, and that party policy is only made when CSD and the policy committee are agreed."

Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the party, said yesterday that if the CSD sticks to its original decision the policy committee would have to reconsider it and then a meeting would have to be set up between the participants.

As she sees it, SDP policy is determined by a power-sharing process between policy committee and CSD.

IRA man returns to Commons

By Rupert Morris

Mr Gerry MacLochlainn, one of the convicted IRA terrorists whose visit to the House of Commons last October caused such a row, was there again yesterday. He said that it was only one of several visits to the House since his release from prison in November 1983.

Mr MacLochlainn said that he had been searched, like everyone else entering the building, but has not apparently been subject to any other special security measures. He had come to a press conference of the Irish in Britain Representation Group "as a member of the Irish community, living in Islington", and not at anyone's express invitation.

News that Mr MacLochlainn was in the House caused an immediate rumour. Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, said that he was "outraged".

"I believe the House of Commons, in the shape of Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, should call a conference of the party leaders to decide a list of prohibited people who should not be allowed to enter this building."

The Duchess of Kent arrived in Northern Ireland last night on a 24-hour visit.

Tight security surrounded the Duchess, making her second visit to the province in a year, as she arrived aboard an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, before transferring by helicopter to Hillsborough Castle.

The Duchess attended a reception for 100 people involved in International Youth Year, and was guest of honour last night at a dinner hosted by Mr Douglas Haughey, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Today she will name a cargo ship, English Star, the first of a £70 million order for the Blue Star Line, at Harland and Wolff in east Belfast.

Mr MacLochlainn would not give his address in Islington, where he says he is a "community worker". He said that since his release from prison, after serving two years and eight months of a four-year sentence for conspiracy to cause explosions, he had visited the House on several occasions, "whenever I wanted to speak to people here."

Out-of-date civil defence advice is revised

By Anthony Bervin, Political Correspondent

The Home Office is planning to revise new public guidance on civil defence in time of war completely revising the booklet *Protect and Survive*, which was already out of date when it was published in May 1980.

It has also been decided, that an official film should be produced to counter the sense of despair which might have been provoked by *The Day After*, the American film which was broadcast in December 1983, and *Threads*, the British film about a nuclear winter shown last September.

Government sources said yesterday that the new leaflet, expected in September, would include guidance on protection against conventional warfare as well as the radiation and blast effects of nuclear war.

The new leaflet honours a commitment made by Lord Whitelaw when he was Home Secretary, and Mr Leon Brittan, then Minister of State at the Home Office, in August and October 1980.

Although *Protect and Survive* was published in May 1980, it had been drafted in 1975, and its assumptions about the warning of nuclear war had already been overturned by the April 1980 *Statement on the Defence Estimates*.

The defence paper said: "The amount of warning time Nato might receive before attack could be very limited." *Protect and Survive* had been built on an assumption of a slow build-up to war and Lord Whitelaw said in a Commons statement on 7 August 1980: "Soviet strategists hold that any war in Europe is likely to escalate into a nuclear exchange, though it might start with conventional warfare, and that the warning time we might receive... might, we believe, be measured in days rather than weeks."

Even in 1980 official sources were admitting that *Protect and Survive* had also failed to present a credible case for civil defence, because it was targeted at model families."

It was said at that time by Home Office sources that the balance would have to be redressed towards people such as pensioners and those without savings. The only question that will be raised in the minds of many backbenchers is why it has taken the Government more than four years to meet that requirement, and there were already signs at Westminster last night that MPs would be dismayed by the September target date for publication.

Test fall-out 'visible at 200km'

By Pat Healy

The fall-out cloud from one of Britain's nuclear tests in Australia would have been visible as "an extended black curtain" up to 200 kilometres away within five hours of the explosion, a meteorologist yesterday told the Australian Royal Commission investigating the safety of the test.

Mr William Roch, assistant director of special investigations at the Meteorological Office, told the commission, in London, that the observers should have had the sensation of being enveloped by the cloud because it would have been about one kilometre above the ground.

The cloud, he said in written evidence, would have been carried over Wallatanna and Woburn Hill, between 150 and 200 kilometres downwind of the Totem 1 test at Emu Field, South Australia.

Mr Roch was called in after newspaper reports of Aborigines suffering from short and long-term symptoms of radiation sickness through exposure to the "blackness or cloud" associated with fall-out from the test. Wallatanna and Woburn Hill have Aboriginal settlements.

Board game protest upheld

Complaints that pictures of Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, were used to advertise the board game Trivial Pursuit, are upheld today by the Advertising Standards Authority.

The Treasury complained that the use of the photograph of Mr Lawson, without his permission was "an unjustified commercial exploitation of his image."

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Guidelines on farm pollution

Farmers were issued with a new booklet yesterday that outlines stricter controls to prevent pollution of water supplies by pesticides, fertilisers, slurry, and silage effluent.

The booklet, published by the Water Authorities Association, the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association, explains the powers available to water authorities.

The aim of the booklet is to help farmers to avoid pollution of water supplies by pesticides, fertilisers, slurry, and silage effluent. The booklet, published by the Water Authorities Association, the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association, explains the powers available to water authorities.

Broadway ruling

Plans for the £13 million redevelopment of Hammer-smith Broadway were yesterday told to go ahead when Mr Justice Woolf in the High Court dismissed an application by the Greater London Council for a declaration that the Bredero company's application for planning approval was invalid. The GLC was ordered to pay the costs for the two day hearing.

£20m rejection

An Arab consortium's £20 million plan for a conference and leisure centre at Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria, has been rejected by the parish council, which felt it would spoil the village.

Cruise protest

Five women arrested for obstruction yesterday morning, when they tried to prevent a cruise missile launcher from passing through Devizes, Wiltshire, were released after questioning.

West Indian children fare worst in exams

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

West Indian children perform only a third as well in some examinations as Asian and white school leavers, according to a report on ethnic minority education to be published shortly.

The report of the Swann Committee, which has taken five years to produce, has yet to be submitted to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education.

The committee's attempts to establish blame for this underachievement led to resignations on the committee, but it finally attributed responsibility to both prejudice and discrimination by the white majority as well as to socio-economic factors in the West Indian community.

The report will show that the percentage of West Indian pupils gaining a "pass" grade in five or more subjects at O level rose from 3 per cent to 6 per cent between 1979 and 1982. That compares with 17 per cent of Asians and 19 per cent of the remainder of school leavers gaining the higher grades in O level and CSE.

However, results for English language showed that the percentage of West Indian pupils achieving a grade 1 CSE or a grade A to C at O level went up from 9 per cent to 15 per cent in those three years.

The committee, chaired by Lord Swann, is expected to say that these improvements offer scant ground for complacency.

The report also found that only 44 per cent of West Indian children said their parents helped them with study for examinations, compared with 60 per cent of white children and about 70 per cent of Pakistani and Bangladeshi children.

Serious concern was expressed to MPs yesterday about the welfare of children aged four who start primary school too early (Sarah Bayliss writes).

The Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts was told by the British Association of Early Childhood Education that in many cases schools that had falling numbers were accepting four-year-olds into their reception classes.

Parents who ostensibly wanted their children to full time place at the schools and the proportion of children aged four in primary schools had jumped from about 25 per cent in 1979 to 70 per cent in 1983.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$22, Belgium 27, Canada \$27, France 27, Germany 27, Italy 27, Japan 27, New Zealand 27, Norway 27, Portugal 27, Spain 27, Sweden 27, Switzerland 27, USA \$27, West Germany 27.

MAJOR PUBLIC AUCTION
HUGE EXHIBITION STOCK FOR URGENT DISPOSAL

This vast collection was especially selected and acquired by a major wholesaler for an imaginative exhibition programme by a chain of prestigious Interior Designers and Home Furnishers. Failure to meet projected targets compelled wholesaler to withdraw sponsorship to prevent further losses. Main category items now apportioned for auction piece-by-piece with nominal or no reserves to secure complete disposal.

PERSIAN RUGS & CARPETS

Including some highly collectable and old items, silk Quorum, silk Brinagar etc, Kashan, unique normal Belouchi, Qashgai etc, vegetable dye Anatolian, deep-pile Kazak, many large and very large formal Persian carpets, and other choice and important handknotted Islamic & Chinese carpets, rugs, runners, tribal items, etc., etc., all of Exhibition quality and appeal.

AUCTION SUNDAY 27th JANUARY AT 2.00 pm
View: 12.00 noon - 2.00 pm

in Lord's Banqueting Hall, St. John's Wood Rd, London NW8 7TA

Concise Auctioneers, 10, St. John's Wood Rd, London NW8 7TA

Obscure after is jai

Embr author

Post office to get cash dispense

National Girobank

Transfer Sharing

Colomb Savers

Link members

Observer faces charge after weapons expert is jailed for corruption

From Tim Jones, Bristol

The Observer newspaper has been told that it is to be prosecuted for corruption in relation to offences for which a senior Ministry of Defence weapons expert was yesterday sentenced to six months imprisonment.

Raymond Williams, aged 38, of Kingsmead, West, Bath, had pleaded not guilty at Bristol Crown Court to two charges of corruptly receiving a total of £1,500 from The Observer in return for information given while he was a senior executive officer at the Directorate of Weapons, Resources and programmes.

His wife, who was in court with their daughter aged six weeks, as sentences was passed. After the case the Attorney General's office said: "Observer Newspapers have been informed that they are to be prosecuted although they have also been told that if any fresh evidence arose during the course of the trial the decision would be reviewed in the light of the evidence."

so highly prized as they used to be.

"Whether that is so or not, the law steps in when an employee in breach of his loyalty corruptly passes on to another for money his employer's private information."

He said that Williams was not facing official secrets charges but had been employed as a trusted civil servant by a department vital to Britain.

Mr Paul Chad, QC, for the defence said that it was a tragic case because his client was not an inherently evil man. Pressures of debt appeared to have "decomposed" Williams' backbone. For the sake of stooping to accept money that was being dangled before him for information he has ruined himself."

The court had been told that Williams, deeply in debt, had approached The Observer. He met Mr Patrick Bishop, a reporter, and handed documents to him which became part of two articles about defence expenditure published in the newspaper.

Mr Chad said that if Williams had been corrupt he could have passed over classified information which would have meant more money for him and "a field day" for The Observer.

Williams, he said, could have told the newspaper of faulty Special Air Service equipment during the Falklands conflict. The Royal Navy had taken to contain the Argentine navy during the fighting and unnecessary expenditure on storage of Trident missiles. Mr Chad maintained that the documents Williams had passed on were "trivial".

He said that Williams had offered the newspaper the information in an attempt to be taken on as a defence consultant. "The newspaper told him nothing of its intention to publish the article in which material from the two documents was used. By doing so they ended his administrative career without the slightest intention of giving him any kind of employment."

Mr Bishop, it was alleged, when told that it was a life-or-death matter, said that the newspaper's editor would contact the police.

Later that evening a person describing himself as the editor of The Observer rang the detective and said: "I don't know that person nor has money been paid to him. All I can say is that a man of that description has been seen in London alive and well today."



Home entertainment: Children making use of flood water in York.

Roads freeze after thaw

By David Cross

Heavy snow and gale-force winds gripped northern and central Scotland yesterday as the continuing thaw, combined with overnight frost, made driving hazardous in many parts of northern and western England.

In Scotland, where snowdrifts up to two feet deep blocked a number of roads, about 70,000 homes were without electricity as strong winds brought down power lines covered with frozen snow. Many schools were closed for the day and 29 vehicles were abandoned on the A9.

One of the main roads to Glasgow, was described by the Automobile Association as very dangerous, with strong crosswinds and driving snow. Both the Forth and Tay bridges had speed restrictions.

The RAC reported a spate of minor accidents as black ice formed on roads in Hampshire and Dorset.

In parts of Yorkshire and Kent, floods brought on by the sudden thaw stranded a number of families and left roads under three feet of water. In York workmen battled through the night building sandbag barricades as a tributary of the river Ouse overflowed.

Armed raid bravery of WPC

A policewoman tackled a gang of armed raiders single-handed even though she knew they were carrying a sawn-off shotgun which had just been fired during a Post Office raid, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Miss Karen Kinger aged 27, attached to Harlesden police station, North-west London, ran up to the getaway car when it stopped in heavy traffic and ordered the three occupants to surrender, the court was told. She dived through the window and wrestled with the driver as he accelerated forward and then reversed, dragging her along.

"But she still managed to handcuff the driver and arrest him. It was one of those extreme feats of bravery which we only hear of now and again," Mr. Fergus Mitchell, for the prosecution said. The other two passengers escaped, leaving a shotgun behind, but one was captured later, he said.

Geoffrey Roper, aged 26, of Hazledean Road, Harlesden, told the jury that he saw Miss Kinger being dragged about the car when he saw her and "went into action".

Mr Mitchell told the jury that a robbery at a post office in Burnley Road, Harlesden, was foiled when the postmaster set off the alarm. A shot was fired into the ceiling before the raiders fled. Shortly afterwards Miss Kinger heard about the shooting on her radio and "went into action".

Mr Roper was alleged to have said: "She grabbed my keys; I had to get away. She was very brave." The trial continues today.

Princess 'better'

Princess Margaret is making good progress after her recent lung operation but will not undertake any engagements until March 23, Kensington Palace announced yesterday.

Mr Roper was alleged to have said: "She grabbed my keys; I had to get away. She was very brave." The trial continues today.

bottom, in rejecting advertising as either an exclusive or partial means of financing our kind of public service broadcasting operation. "We are united, not at all out of some toffee-nosed horror of the supposed vulgarity of commerce which a tiny advertising lobby seeks to ascribe to us, but out of the deep conviction that there ought to remain in Britain one sector in which programmes are not interrupted."

Poison cloud caused by tanker mix-up

A cloud of chlorine gas which put 16 people in hospital in West Yorkshire was caused by a series of errors, misunderstandings and a muddle, a factory inspector said yesterday. Mr Ian Wrightson told Huddersfield magistrates that a chemical company in Slaithwaite had been expecting a delivery of sodium hypochlorite, a bleach, but received ferric chloride instead.

It arrived in a road tanker from Manchester with warning panels saying that it was carrying sodium hypochlorite. But the correct tanker was in Liverpool. Mr Wrightson said that as the driver began to unload the chemical into the bleach storage tank at the Britannia works of Hays Chemicals a large cloud of poisonous chlorine gas was generated by the reaction of the two chemicals on each other.

Employees and passers-by had to flee and houses were evacuated. The situation was made worse by the fact that the emergency services did not know what was in the tanker. It was two hours before they discovered that it was ferric chloride and six hours before people were allowed back home.

Mr Wrightson said that 29 people were taken to hospital, most of them employees from Hays, and 16 were detained from between one and three days. The 16 were still receiving out-patient treatment and one had not yet returned to work.

The company which delivered the chemicals, Seville Tank Cleaning, of Stand Lane, Radcliffe, Greater Manchester, admitted failing to supply the driver with written information on his load and not displaying three hazard warning panels on the tanker. It was fined a total of £3,600.

Mr Kippax said that the trouble began when the correct tanker was loaded with the bleach at a chemical firm in Bradford and taken for delivery at another Hays firm in Liverpool. The next day Hays asked for the bleach to be sent to Slaithwaite and another driver was given the job, but no one told him that the tanker was in Liverpool. He found another in the yard with sodium hypochlorite warning panels on it and assumed it was the one.

The company had been burgled and property vandalized two days earlier, and it was thought that the intruders had switched the tanker warning panels.

Father killed boy in fit of temper

From Our Correspondent Winchester

Mark Horscroft, aged three and a half, was put into the care of his father after his mother's lover assaulted him. But within nine months Mark was killed in a fit of temper by his father, David Horscroft, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday. His father, aged 31, a lorry driver, gave up work to look after Mark and his brother, Alexander, aged five. He was jailed yesterday for five years after admitting to unlawfully killing his son. Mr John McNaught, for the prosecution, said that Mark's mother, Mrs Nadia Horscroft, left her home in Marlowe Close, Basingstoke, Hampshire, in 1982, and took her two sons to London to live with her lover, Mr Harold Gomez. Mr McNaught added that Mark was beaten by Mr Gomez and taken to hospital with very severe injuries and detained for 18 days. David Horscroft was granted custody of both his sons in December, 1983. In July, 1984, Mark was taken to hospital with a fractured arm. On September 3 last year Mark was taken to hospital with severe head injuries and bruises. He died September 5.

Bishops prepare for Synod Remarriages in church after divorce ruled out

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The bishop of the Church of England yesterday killed off the latest scheme for remarrying divorcees in the church. It is the second time a scheme has been drawn up, adopted by the General Synod, and then withdrawn because of adverse reaction among ordinary churchmen.

At a meeting of the House of Bishops in London they decided by a majority that opinion in the dioceses was too strongly opposed to justify bringing the proposals forward.

Only 12 of the 43 diocesan synods which had passed judgement on the scheme were in favour.

The bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, has stated before the bishops' meeting that he believed they should persevere with it. He is one of several bishops who are expected to respond to the scheme's demise by authorizing their clergy to conduct second marriages at their discretion. That is virtually the case already in the dioceses of Birmingham and Southwark.

The end of the second scheme leaves the Church of England with no policy on the remembrance of divorcees, and little prospect of one at a national level.

There are nevertheless two further developments expected: the authorization in due course of a so-called "service of blessing" for a couple after a civil marriage; and the report of a committee which has been considering the relationship between the church's teaching on the indissolubility of marriage, and recent changes in the law to permit divorce after one year.

There is some expectation in the church that the committee may recommend the severance of the close ties between church and state on marriage. Church marriage would instead be available only for those who were prepared to accept a "Christian" conception of marriage as lifelong.

The most likely outcome is a period of reflection to see how practice develops pastorally, and whether there is enthusiasm for an official "service after civil marriage."

In that case, for the next few years the prospect of a divorced person being allowed a second marriage in church will depend very much on the view of the local clergymen.

Church jobs plan to go to MPs

Parliament should be asked again to approve the Church of England measure which it rejected last July after a late-night backbench ambush organized by Mr. Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist MP for South Down, according to the standing committee of the church's General Synod.

The Appointment of Bishops Measure, which was designed to simplify the procedure for installing a bishop in office, was approved by the General Synod in 1983 by 233 to 8.

It went before the House of Commons after acceptance by the Ecclesiastical Committee of Parliament and was defeated there by 32 votes to 17. It was the first time the House of Commons had rejected a measure, and precipitated a crisis between the two bodies.

At its meeting next month the General Synod will be advised by its standing committee to return the measure for approval unamended. Mr Powell said yesterday that he thought it "premature" to comment, though in his speech to the House last July he declared that there were profound issues of principle at stake.

The standing committee discussed Mr Powell's views at length, and decided they could not be accommodated. However it was noted that most other MPs who spoke did not endorse his view, but used the debate to attack various aspects of the church, such as the theological and political opinions of certain bishops, particularly the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins.

The General Synod is due to debate two of those issues shortly, the standing committee clearly hopes that parliamentarians will consider themselves to have been heeded by the church.

The majority view of the standing committee, expressed in a report to the synod, was that the ancient procedures for approving the appointment of bishops, in particular election by dean and chapter with only one candidate nominated by the Crown, were absurd and obsolete.

Issues of faith in the open

The Bishop of Durham's principal opponent, the Rev David Holloway of Newcastle upon Tyne, praised him yesterday for forcing the Church of England to face difficult issues of faith.

The Right Rev David Jenkins' reinter-pretation of the Virgin Birth and the Resurrection was welcome because the problem had previously been swept under the carpet, Mr Holloway said.

Mr Holloway is the originator of a "gravamen" or statement of grievance which has obliged the General Synod's business managers to arrange a full-scale debate on these doctrinal issues.

Mr Holloway wishes the House of Bishops to affirm that the Church believes Jesus was virginally conceived, with no human biological father; and that the Resurrection was a real event in the sense that the tomb was empty afterwards and Jesus's physical remains are not still on Earth.

The Bishop Durham's original statements were made before his consecration in an interview with the London Weekend Television programme *Credo* last April. On the Virgin Birth, he said he was "pretty clear" it was a story told after the event to express and symbolize the faith that Jesus was a unique event from God.

"On the Resurrection he said: "It doesn't seem to me that there was any one event which you could identify, but it wasn't a question of people making things up out of their wishes. There was more of a cause to it than just my imagination or St Peter's imagination." He said it was not a miraculous event in the commonly understood sense; but the way the Apostles came to believe that Jesus had risen could be called a miracle.

Embryo research authority proposed

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Medical Research Council is to set up a voluntary licensing authority to control research on human embryos, as an interim measure before the Government legislates on the recommendations of the Warnock report.

The move was announced yesterday in an attempt to allay public fears about embryo research in the increasingly emotive run-up to Mr Enoch Powell's Private Member's Bill which is expected to propose a ban on all human embryo research. The Bill, yet to be published, is to be debated in Parliament next month.

The Council proposes to set up a body with a lay chairman, and a "strong" lay membership - perhaps a third of the total - with scientific expertise drawn from the Council itself and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, whose members are the doctors involved in test-tube baby research and treatment.

The body will adopt most of the recommendations of the Warnock report for a statutory authority to control research, licensing individual centres, about 20 in all at present, and individual workers. The 14-day limit recommended by Warnock will be applied and research will be approved project by project.

A code of practice will be drawn up and members of the Council's "authority" will inspect laboratories to ensure compliance with the code and licence conditions. Although the lay members will be chosen by the council, Sir James Gowans, secretary of the council, said he believed it would have "very considerable clout".

Embryo research in Britain had been conducted in an open and honest way, people in the field were well known to each other and doctors and scientists would not want to go beyond the limits the "authority" set. Everything would be published, he said, and refusals or withdrawals of licences announced.

The council had acted because there was obviously going to be a vacuum before the Government legislated and it believed a voluntary authority with lay representation would provide "self-regulation".

"The council yesterday published detailed justification of the need for research - arguing that the success rate of the test-tube baby procedure, in which only about one in 10 women become pregnant, could not be improved without research.

Studies on fertilization and early development of embryos could provide answers to male infertility, improved contraception and better ways of detecting and preventing inherited abnormalities such as spina bifida, and Down's syndrome.

In spite of its backing for a 14-day limit on research, the Council in its formal response to the Warnock report argued that the limit should not be written into legislation, but contained in a code of practice.

It should also be expressed as a stage in the embryo's development, rather than as 14 days.

Spending on food lowest since 1953

The British family is spending less of its income on food, clothing, and shoes than at any time in the past 30 years, according to government figures published yesterday.

But it is having to pay a higher proportion of its budget on housing, fuel, light, and power than since 1953, when regular surveys began.

The statistics, published in the *Family Expenditure Survey* refer to 1983 and show how much is spent as a proportion of the total household expenditure. The figures are the latest available.

Spending on tobacco in the family budget has fallen by more than half in the past 30 years and has remained steady at about 3 per cent since 1960.

The "average" number of people per household was at its lowest recorded level at 2.66 in 1983 compared with a high of 3.18 in 1953.

But average family spending increased ahead of inflation, up to £142.59 a week in 1983, a 6 per cent rise on 1982 when inflation increased by 4.6 per cent. In 1952 it was £12.01 a week.

However, in the North weekly spending was £119.14 per cent less than the national average, while in the South-east it was £156.30, 13 per cent above the average.

In the North-west the average spending on alcohol was £7.19 a week, compared with East Anglia, where it was just £4.70. Fish and chips were most popular in Yorkshire and Humberside, where families spent an average 51p a week.

put considerable pressure on Sinclair and Commodore. Acorn is reacting to press speculation that it had not achieved its sales targets. According to the company its sales during the Christmas period were at an all-time high it says 100,000 BBC Microcomputers and Electrons were sold during the period giving the company total sales of £20,000 for 1984.

Total home computer sales in 1984 were 1.7 million with a value of £315 million, according to a report published yesterday by the stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie.

Post offices to get cash dispensers

By Peter Wilson-Smith

National Girobank is installing cash dispensers outside main post offices as part of a new network being set up with 20 other financial institutions including the Abbey National and Nationwide societies.

The aim of the joint venture, called Link, is to have a national network of about 1,000 cash machines in place by the end of next year. Customers of the 21 banks and building societies involved will be able to use any of the Link machines to withdraw cash or make balance inquiries.

The other big participants in Link are the Co-operative Bank and a consortium called Funds Transfer Sharing (FTS) which includes American Express and Citibank Savings, the retail arm of the big American bank.

The group has banded together to spread the cost of the network, which is estimated at £15-20 million. The move represents another challenge to the big clearing banks. Although some other building societies have already installed cash dispensers, none yet has a network to rival the clearing banks.

National Giro, the banking subsidiary of the Post Office, will be first off the mark installing machines. The first, in Liverpool, will be working by the end of March and 50 of the planned 180 will be in by the summer. Abbey National has 220 machines on order, the Co-operative Bank plans 50, the Nationwide 120 and FTS about 220.

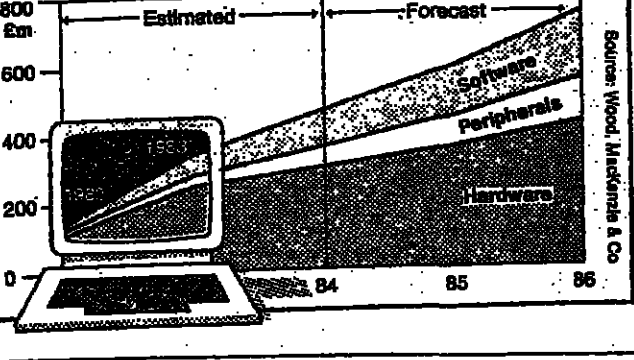
The Link members are keen to bring in other participants and hope eventually to join up with other automatic teller machine networks. They expect to have about four million customers using the system within two and a half years.

Acorn fights back in computer price war

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The High Street home computer price war intensified yesterday when Acorn Computers reduced the price of its Electron computer by a third (£70) and offered £50 to anyone who traded in any computer against the BBC model.

The price reductions are Acorn's response to Sinclair who reduced the Spectrum Plus by £50. Both machines will retail at about £130. The trade-in offer is an attempt to ensure that anyone wanting to upgrade their existing computer would buy a BBC Microcomputer. If successful, that strategy could



BBC chiefs to put £65 licence case

By David Cross

Senior BBC executives are to go on the air next week to argue the corporation's case for a £65 colour television licence fee and against the acceptance of advertising to finance its programmes.

Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, will take part in a Radio 4 debate about the future of public service broadcasting on Sunday, and on Tuesday Radio 4 listeners will be able to cross-examine Mr Alasdair Milne, the director-general, in a phone-in programme. In a speech in Cardiff earlier this week Mr Milne told businessmen "that programme standards could not conceivably remain the same if the entire national broadcasting system were based on advertising revenue and if all broadcasters had to turn to the same pot of gold for their finance". He added: "We are thus united at the BBC, from top to

New rates from Nationwide

(From 1st February 1985)

Share Accounts	Not 7.50%
FlexAccounts	7.50%
Bonus-7 Accounts	8.75%
Super Bonus Accounts	9.00%
Bonus-90 Accounts	9.25%
Capital Bonds (23rd Issue)	9.25%
The rate of interest on all existing Capital Bonds will be increased by 0.75% from 1 February 1985. The guaranteed extra interest paid on all existing Capital Bonds continues unchanged.	
Subscription Share Accounts	8.50%
Deposit Accounts	7.25%
Mortgage Accounts - New Advances	
The rate of interest charged on repayment mortgages for new owner occupier borrowers is 12.875% from 21 January 1985.	
Mortgage Accounts - Existing Mortgages	
The rate of interest charged on existing repayment loans for owner occupier borrowers will be 12.875% with effect from 1 February 1985.	
Higher rates arising from endowment and pension linked mortgages will continue to apply.	

Nationwide Building Society

New Oxford House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PW

PARLIAMENT JANUARY 22 1985

Mining dispute Brighton bomb inquiry

Security review at major political conferences

Thatcher sees no point in holding talks

then he can do it in two ways: by ensuring that the NUM withdraws its impossible demand that no economic pits shall close...

Skinner: There should be a debate

settlement. The NCB accepted it; the NUM did not. Labour leaders should urge them to accept and then there will be no need to strike.

TERRORISM

In the aftermath of the Brighton bomb outrage during the Conservative Party Conference last year, there is to be a review of the security arrangements at the major party conferences to be held later in the year.

Secrets trial

As I said last October total security is impossible in a free, democratic society. But in the light of Brighton we must enhance security and equip ourselves to take the full extent of both the criticisms and the praise...

COAL DISPUTE

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, told the Commons that there was no point in holding another round of talks to try to resolve the miners' dispute until the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers withdrew its demand that no economic pits should be closed.

A debate when helpful

At an appropriate moment, when it would be helpful to a settlement of the mining dispute, the Commons should have a debate on it, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said in rejecting another application by a Labour MP for an emergency debate on the strike.

Bowden: Unreasonable criticism of police

Difficult decisions will have to be taken about many matters relating to security, including the extent and nature of police powers...

Christian tradition in schools

Any attempt to do away with daily worship in schools would be a departure from the Christian tradition, Mr Robert Dunn, Minister of Education and Science, told the Commons during questions about morning assembly and religious education in schools.

Why part of Ponting trial will be in camera

justice. The courts are independent of Parliament and must remain so. Later, on a point on order, Mr Ian Dalyell (Labour, Lab) asked: Are you saying that questions, for example, to the Attorney General on the criteria for vetting the jury are out of order?

Animal liberation attacks

to counter recent attacks by members of the Animal Liberation Front on private homes and public establishments, the Metropolitan Police is to collate information about criminal offences committed by animal rights groups and have appointed a liaison officer in each local police authority area.

Teachers say pay, not effort, has fallen

Teachers have absorbed the extra demands being made on them, Mr Doug McAvoy, the union's deputy general secretary, said. "In doing so they have retained their original commitment, yet they are getting 30 per cent less pay for their efforts."

Quakers told to pay 'arms tax'

Two officials of the Society of Friends (Quakers) were yesterday told by a judge that they must pay taxes, withheld because of conscientious objections to paying for defence spending.

Directors' punishing extra hours

Of those who worked overtime, 22 per cent worked more than 14 hours a week, and of that percentage a third worked between 20 and 40 hours.

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10% rise in water rate defied

The bills soon to be sent to Thames Water's 11 million customers are likely to show only a 3 per cent increase which the board favours, rather than the 10 per cent which the Government is trying to impose.

Armed forces to tighten their belts

The armed forces are likely to tighten their belts in the coming year, with the Government's National Service Reserve Centre (NSRC) expected to raise defence spending by 10 per cent over the next three years to 1988.

PUBLIC SP... White... By David Smith... Economics Correspondent... The Government... the confirmed its po... attempting to hold... constant in... and reduc... public sector's share... Mr Peter Rees... Secretary to the Tr... that the public ex... White Paper, co... the three years to 198... approved "a rest... the Government... changed and con... for public ex... He added: "The single... importance theme... The plans are... production in the per... public expenditure... Big increases in... and general charges... and all ahead... of inflation in Nation... have paid... introduced in... to increase in April... 3 per cent in the... of £2.00... regular increases... charges that will... minimum payable... from £14.50... for the most... from £110... The move would... charges for patients... to buy... proportion of direct... rather than p... charge... for which... charge... In the two years... and detai... to set... the rate of... of prescription... £2.20 and... a maximum for... complex dental treat... £1.50... The increase... announcement by Mr... Minister for F... £1,400... The miners strike... nationalized ind... £1,400 million... throwing the... signal hopes of... money out... completely off beam... main industry... struck by the... Coal Board... British Rail. The... their individual finan... from £100 million... according to... Paper. The total is... since the... based on the assu... the strike would... by Christmas... Overall, the state... expected to end... combined external... of £3.21 billion... with financial... covered with the origi... of £81 million. Inst... reduced, the indust...

PUBLIC SPENDING

Impact of miners' strike

Asset sales targets

Health charges rise

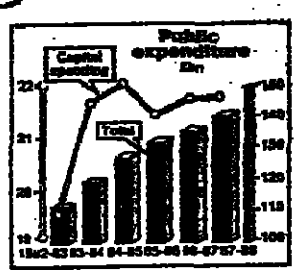
White Paper a restatement of unchanged strategy, Rees says

By David Smith Economics Correspondent The Government yesterday reaffirmed its policy of attempting to hold public spending constant in real terms, and reducing the public sector's share of the economy.

42.5 per cent in the current year, 1984-85, to 39.5 per cent in 1987-88. If successful, that would mean that the Government had restored public spending's share of the economy to the level it inhabited in 1979-80.

£1.5 billion, together with local authority overspending and higher social security costs, are the main reasons for the overrun. The White Paper is based on the outdated assumption of an end-December settlement for the coal strike, suggesting that the eventual 1984-85 overrun will be larger than the £1.7 billion currently estimated.

Table: Planning total by spending authority. Columns: 1983-84 outturn, 1984-85 estimated outturn, 1985-86 plans, 1986-87 plans, 1987-88 plans. Rows: Central government, Local authorities, Public corporations, Nationalized industries, etc.



in 1986-87 and 4.8 per cent in 1987-88, because of uprating and increased numbers of claimants. The inflation assumption used for uprating purposes is that the retail prices index will rise by 4.75 per cent between May 1984 and May 1985, and 4 per cent and 3.5 per cent respectively in the following two years.

planned to fall by 2.5 per cent from this year's level. That is despite the fact that the Government intends to meet its Nato commitment of a 3 per cent real defence spending rise.

HEALTH Pointer to big rises in prescription and dental charges

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent Big increases in prescription and dental charges, plus smaller increases still ahead of the rate of inflation in National Health Service pay bed charges are foreshadowed in the white paper.

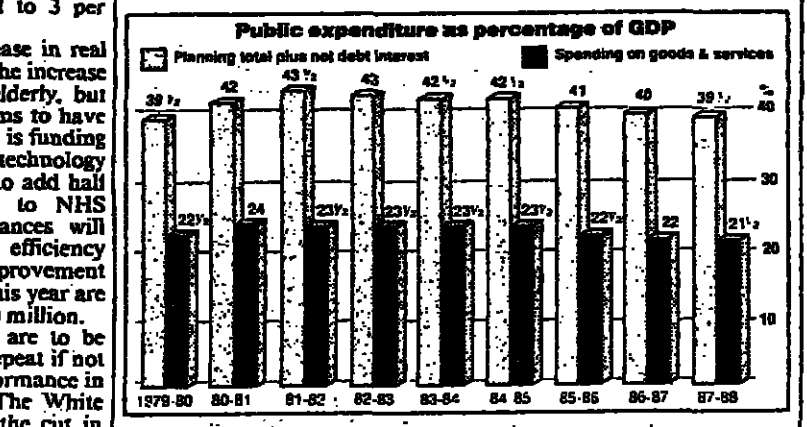
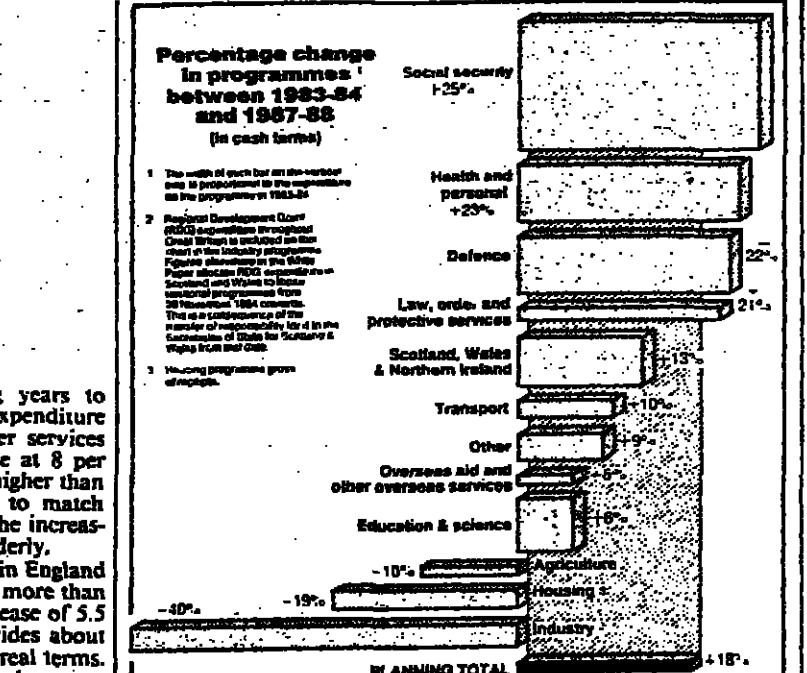


Table: Public expenditure in cash terms by programme. Columns: 1983-84 outturn, 1984-85 estimated outturn, 1985-86 plans, 1986-87 plans, 1987-88 plans. Rows: Defence, Overseas aid and other, Agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry, etc.

NATIONALIZED INDUSTRY £1,400m impact of pit strike

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent The miners' strike has cost the nationalized industries at least £1,400 million so far this year, throwing the Treasury's original hopes of squeezing more money out of them completely off beam.

In the succeeding years to 1987-88, however, expenditure on family practitioner services is pencilled in to rise a 9 per cent and 6 per cent, higher than inflation but having to match extra demand from the increasing numbers of the elderly.

Table: Public sector capital spending. Columns: 1983-84 outturn, 1984-85 estimated outturn, 1985-86 plans, 1986-87 plans, 1987-88 plans. Rows: Goods and services, General government, Expenditure on dwellings, etc.

DEFENCE Armed forces prepare to tighten budget

By Henry Stanhope The armed forces are preparing to tighten their budgets next year with the ending of the Government's Nato commitment to raise defence spending by an annual 3 per cent.

PRISONS Aim is to end overcrowding in a decade

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent Sixteen new prisons are being built or designed under the Government's expenditure plans. The aim is to eliminate overcrowding by the end of the decade in spite of a forecast increase in population.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT End of GLC shows few savings

By David Walker Local Government Correspondent In the first published projection of council spending beyond April 1 1986, it is difficult to detect any significant savings accruing to the public from the abolition of the Greater London Council and six metropolitan counties.

PRIVATIZATION Targets raised for asset sales

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent The Chancellor of the Exchequer has again raised his targets for asset sales proceeds in the next three years. The figures underline how central a role the privatization programme has come to play in allowing the Treasury to report that it is keeping to its public spending plans.

HOUSING Home grants cut by a fifth

By Our Local Government Correspondent Funds available for home improvements grants, renovation of run-down council housing and new local authority house-building are being cut by one fifth in real terms over the next year.

EMPLOYMENT A million jobless to be helped

By David Felton Labour Correspondent Spending in the current year on employment measures is likely to be around £120 million lower than anticipated largely because of an underspend on the Community Programme, which provides work of benefit to the community for the long term unemployed.

SOCIAL SECURITY £6bn to be spent on benefits

By Nicholas Timmins Social Services Correspondent Social security spending, almost £38 billion this year and the Government's largest single programme, making up almost 30 per cent of public spending, is set to rise by another £6 billion over the next three years, according to the White Paper.

EDUCATION Universities expected to be more efficient

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent Universities are expected to make cuts and to become more efficient in the Government's public spending plans. Local authorities are asked to make cuts in school meals, caretaking, cleaning, and numbers of teachers.

Table: Future of council house spending. Columns: 1983-84, 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88. Rows: Total gross council house spending, Council house building, etc.

الشرق الأوسط

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

There was more than the necessary element of wishful thinking in President Reagan's second inaugural address. This was, of course, an occasion for some colourful oratory; but that was not a sufficient explanation for everything he chose to say.

It was not necessary for him to endorse a constitutional amendment for a balanced budget. This was an example of the dubious principle that if you cannot do enough today, double your promises for tomorrow. The deficit has been rising sharply, largely because Mr Reagan has not been prepared to take the hard decisions that would be required to bring it down.

He will not get the Democratic support in Congress that is needed if he is willing to sacrifice only Democratic sacred cows. He will have to sacrifice some Republican ones as well - which means either putting up some taxes, or cutting the planned level of defence spending, or more probably both.

To seek to put a future Administration into a constitutional strait-jacket can be no substitute for failing to take the difficult decision now.

It was not necessary, either, for him to claim that "we seek the total elimination, one day, of nuclear weapons from the face of the earth". That is totally unrealistic, even as a long-term goal. But there is a more specific objection to this piece of empty rhetoric.

The United States is about to embark on new arms negotiations with the Soviet Union. At best, this will be a long, slow process, which may reduce tension between them and may ultimately produce a useful but modest agreement.

To encourage expectations beyond that would be folly, because it might in due course increase demands from Western public opinion - American as well as European - for excessive concessions in order to secure a settlement. What may win plaudits today may irritate pressure tomorrow.

It was equally unnecessary for him to say that, if the research programme is successful, his Strategic Defence Initiative "would render nuclear weapons obsolete". No research that is contemplated seems to offer a realistic prospect of complete defence against all forms of nuclear attack.

Record is more reassuring

This habit of rhetorical excess seems to me to be at least part of the explanation for the strange contrast between his remarkable popularity at home and his unpopularity abroad.

His personal standing at home is frequently higher than the level of support for his policies or his Administration. That is partly because he is associated with the ambitious hopes that he articulates: his Administration is burdened with the failure to put them into practice.

He receives the credit for his aspirations because he is so closely attuned to the instinctive responses of the average American.

Around it is seen rather differently. His oratorical extravagances are taken more literally. That is why he is so widely regarded as dangerously aggressive.

His record is in fact more reassuring than some of his words have been. Where has he involved American troops in fighting? There was Lebanon, but he extracted them from there with considerable political skill, even if with less diplomatic finesse. There was Grenada, which was a rough but short and successful operation.

Now, despite the doubts of the sceptics, he has taken the Geneva road again. Yet he retains an apparent unawareness of how some of his words will sound abroad. It is what he claims for his Strategic Defence Initiative, for example, not the reality, that would conflict with European interests.

If both superpowers were to become completely invulnerable to nuclear attack that would increase the risk of conventional warfare in Europe. A partial defence against nuclear attack, which is the only realistic hope, would not have that effect.

The more often President Reagan's advisers can remind him that when he speaks inside the United States he is usually heard outside as well, the better it will be.

For the rest of us the wisest course will be to concentrate on what he does, which is so often more realistic than what he suggests he will do. That is why his second term is likely to be better than his second inaugural.

Shuttle set to blast off for first secret spy satellite flight

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The space shuttle Discovery yesterday entered the final hours of countdown for a highly secret military mission which experts said would deploy a spy satellite to intercept electronic signals from the Soviet Union.

Workers braced themselves for a second chilling day at the launching pad at Cape Canaveral, Florida, preparing the shuttle for take-off today.

The Pentagon has declined all comment on the main objective of the Discovery's flight the first top-secret manned US space mission. It expressed dismay at Press reports last month that the US was to launch a satellite which would eavesdrop on electronic signals from the Soviet Union.

Discovery's mission, according to Press reports, is to put an intelligence-gathering satellite into orbit 22,500 miles above the western part of the Soviet Union.

Discovery's landing time would not be announced until 16 hours before touchdown at Cape Canaveral, a mission control spokesman said.

Of more than 200 shuttle launches due in the next 10 years, about a third are to be conducted by the military. Today's is the first.

How they stand

The number of military satellites the two superpowers have in orbit now are as follows:

	US	USSR
Photo-reconnaissance	4	2
Radar surveillance	0	2
Electronic intelligence	16	10
Naval communications	22	23
Navigation	13	12
Meteorological	5	4
Early-warning	3	4
Total	64	62

Unofficial sources said that, in addition to the above, the superpowers each have about 30 civilian communications satellites in orbit.

The Air Force has kept shrouded in secrecy the exact launch time and duration of the mission, to hamper Soviet efforts to monitor deployment of the spy satellite. Officials would say only that blast-off was due between 1.15pm and 4.15pm local time.

Non-Government experts have said Discovery would deploy the first in a new series of satellites which would boost ability to monitor Soviet compliance with arms control agreements.

The signal intelligence (Sigint) satellite would intercept Soviet telemetry, radio broadcasts and radar signals.

A later mission would deploy an Ikon satellite which

Prayers and protest on abortion law

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Yesterday was the 12th anniversary of the Supreme Court's highly controversial Roe v Wade decision legalizing abortion on demand throughout the US. Pro and anti-abortion activists used the occasion to support their respective positions through protests and prayer.

Across the nation opponents of abortion held marches and vigils calling for the scrapping of the Supreme Court ruling.

Since the ruling more than 18 million fetuses have been aborted and abortions are continuing at the rate of 4,500 a day. Opinion polls show that a growing number of Americans believe that the law should be amended and that greater protection should be afforded to the unborn child.

Leaders of the National Right to Life Movement, which yesterday organized a March for Life rally from the White House to Capitol Hill, hope they have a real chance of getting abortion laws amended during President Reagan's second term.

In his 1984 State of the Union message Mr Reagan appealed to Americans to find alternatives to abortion.

Yesterday President Reagan spoke through a loudspeaker hookup from the Oval Office to the pro-life marchers outside the White House. He called for an end to the national tragedy of abortion on demand and expressed his support for legislation banning the use of federal funds to finance abortions.

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UN states urged to make Charter binding

By Michael Knipe

United Nations member-states should mark this year's 40th anniversary of the world organization by acknowledging the legal fact that the UN Charter was as binding as their own constitutions, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, said in Edinburgh last night.

In a speech at Edinburgh University he said the organization might have fallen short of expectations but it had contributed many positive developments, including economic and technical assistance to more than one hundred countries, peace-keeping duties and the codification and development of international law.

Five conventions on the laws governing space, containing principles to limit potential military use, were a very solid achievement. Another was the Convention on the Law of the Sea, under which Britain would be among the states which stand to gain the most. In the war against illicit drugs, the latest endeavour was a Latin-American initiative to equate drug trafficking with slave trading.

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Popieluszko murder trial Battle erupts over attack on church

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A fierce courtroom battle broke out yesterday during the Popieluszko murder trial over an attempt by the state prosecutor to incorporate in the case material a lengthy document attacking the Roman Catholic church's political activities in Poland.

The wrangle is crucial, courtroom observers say, not only because it represents a fresh attempt to politicize the trial but also because the state prosecutor may be easing the way towards a milder sentence for the acknowledged ring-leader of the kidnap, the former secret police captain Grzegorz Piotrowski.

He and his two lieutenants, Leszek Pelka and Waldemar Chmielewski, face between eight years' imprisonment and capital punishment under article 148, paragraph 1 of the penal code, for the premeditated murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

But the prosecutor, who seems to be giving the accused a backhanded defence, could change the charge to murder while in a state of emotional instability. Paragraph 2 of the same article provides for between one and ten years in jail. To do so he would have to show that Piotrowski's political frustration with the largely unchecked activities of priests had driven him to a state of frenzy.

The attack on the church, already delivered in part by Piotrowski during his testimony, accuses a bishop of collaborating with the Nazis, speaks of financial links between clerics and Solidarity, alleges tax dodges and says the clergy are disloyal.

He also claims to have had material on Popieluszko which both compromised him - it accuses him of having had a mistress.

Lawyers for the Popieluszko family effectively brought the normal running of the trial to a halt yesterday in their attempts to stop the state prosecutor getting away with this latest move.

One of the lawyers, Mr Jan Olszewski, said: "My anxiety about this borders on outrage. This is one of the most important trials in postwar Poland... and yet the prosecutor is trying to introduce elements of a political farce into the hearings."

While the crossfire between prosecutor, judges and family lawyers held up the action in the Torun courtroom, the main witness of the day, secret police General Zenon Platek, heavy with fatigue, swayed uneasily in the witness stand.

The Popieluszko family lawyers have been pressing him to admit he slowed up the investigation into the murder.

His testimony was beginning to look threadbare under cross-examination.



Key man: General Platek (third from left) and other witnesses

Ramphal calls off Sri Lanka initiative

The Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Shridath Ramphal, has shelved his efforts to help to resolve tension in Sri Lanka and to improve its relations with India, Commonwealth sources said in London yesterday.

Mr Ramphal contacted President Junius Jayewardene of Sri Lanka this month to investigate the possibility of helping to ease tension between the Sinhalese majority and Tamil minority.

Relations between India and Sri Lanka have been damaged by claims, which Delhi denies, that Tamil separatist guerrillas have been trained in India.

The Commonwealth sources say that Mr Ramphal has called off his initiative because premature disclosures have led both governments to take public stands that indicate that no progress can be made. The offer to explore ways to help remains on the table, they say.

● COLOMBO: "We will not accept the theory that certain parts of the island are the traditional homelands of the Tamils or any other race", President Jayewardene said on Monday at Anamaduru in the north western province (Donovan Mouldrich writes).

The settlement of Sinhalese peasants by successive governments since independence in 1948 in areas of the north and east, which the Tamils regard as their traditional homeland, has been a most contentious issue.

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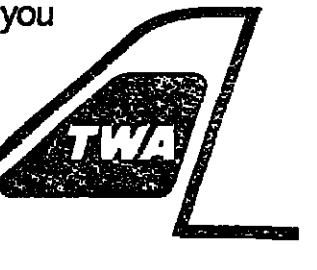
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Leading the way to the USA



The Indian spy scandal

Overhaul of intelligence service casts wide net

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

What is described as "a major overhaul of the intelligence set-up" has been ordered by India's Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, after the disclosure of the biggest spy scandal in the country's history. His parliamentary secretary and closest aide, Mr Arun Singh, a former businessman, has been deputed to oversee the operation, and the Home and Defence ministries have been asked to review document handling in sensitive offices. At the same time, police and Intelligence Bureau investigations into the spy scandal are spreading ever wider. According to newspapers, the operation already includes investigations of several politicians. The Statesman says that politicians under surveillance include a former finance minister, and The Hindustan Times report includes a former general secretary of the Congress (I) Party and 12 elected representatives of various political parties. The Hindustan Times also says that a dozen brigadiers and a dozen permanent secretaries are under investigation. The Times of India declares that the names of five diplomats from the French, US and West German embassies have been passed to the External Affairs Ministry so that they may be declared persona non grata

Senior Civil Servants held

Among those remanded in custody to appear in court on Monday are understood to be the private secretary to Mr Gandhi's former Principal Secretary, and three personal assistants and a clerk also from the Prime Minister's secretariat. Others include the senior personal assistant to the President of India's press secretary, two personal assistants in the finance ministry and another in defence production, a defence ministry clerk, and the Delhi manager and another employee of a Bombay company.

gested why the finger has been pointed so vigorously at the American Central Intelligence Agency.

Some months ago two US newspapers reported leaks from the Senate Intelligence Committee which indicated that India may have been considering a pre-emptive attack on Pakistan's nuclear plants, similar to Israel's strike against Iraq's French-built plant.

Although such an idea may have been mooted in some kind of position paper within the Indian bureaucracy, it was firmly rejected by the then Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

None the less, the fact that such a paper could surface in the US indicated to India's counter-intelligence organizations that some sort of American-linked spy network was at work inside the bureaucracy.

The present case may also have the unforeseen effect of strengthening the hand of the military men against the bureaucrats. India's armed forces are essentially run and controlled not by the generals, but by the civil servants.

Now that the bureaucracy has been shown to be so penetrated by foreign interests, the military have a case for insisting that control of the forces is placed in the hands of one of their own men - a lieutenant-general or his equivalent in other services.

because of their alleged involvement in the spy ring.

The Indian Express insists that at least one Frenchman other than the withdrawn military attaché, Lieutenant-Colonel Alain Bolley, is also involved. It says that this mysterious Frenchman, who is not a member of the embassy, was the real mastermind of the spy network, and that he was hustled out of the country 24 hours before the colonel left.

The Express, incidentally, was the first to report that a Frenchman had been expelled: 24 hours before Colonel Bolley left.

One reason has been sug-



Export exponents: King Juan Carlos of Spain and his Prime Minister, Señor Felipe Gonzalez (left), at an export summit in Madrid yesterday attended by thousands of Spanish industrialists and economists.

Gandhi faces another electoral test

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

Almost three-quarters of India's voters will be going to the polls again at the beginning of March to elect local legislatures in 10 states and one union territory.

Voting will be on March 2 and March 5 in the populous states of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The others

will vote on March 5 only. They are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and the union territory of Pondicherry.

Seven states had opposition governments after Congress returned to power in 1980, and so were dissolved and fresh elections held. The resulting legislatures' terms are now up.

In Karnataka the Janata Party chief minister resigned and called for elections after Mr Rajiv Gandhi's sweeping victory last month.

No elections are to be held for an assembly in Punjab, where president's rule will continue and a date has not been set for elections to the central parliament there or in Assam.

China takes first steps on road to rule by law

From Mary Lee Peking

China has taken first steps in moving the country towards rule by law rather than by arbitrarily enforced administrative regulations.

Its efforts to build a base of civil law bore fruit this week when the standing committee of the National People's Congress adopted legislation on accountability, the next important step will be introduction of a law governing inheritance.

As the Communist Daily newspaper, The People's Daily, pointed out last month: "Some comrades look down upon the legal system... and think that law is too binding and can be dispensed with."

"They hold that if there is policy, there is no need for law. They are used to replacing the Government with the party and replacing law with verbal orders, practising arbitrary rule like a patriarch, with themselves alone having the say."

"We should see to it that the law will not change along with the change of leaders, nor with the change of the opinions and attention of the leaders."

The accountability law, China's first, comes into effect on May 1. It will allow accountants to perform their duties unfettered by political constraints or threats of retaliation.

Mr Yang Jingu, deputy secretary-general of the Congress's law commission, said such legislation was made necessary by China's extensive programme of economic reforms.

"We need accountants to exercise supervision of the state financial system, help reinforce economic management and promote the rational use of funds."

Young Deng joins in debate on God

Peking (AP) - Mother Teresa of Calcutta debated yesterday with the disabled son of China's leader over whether God was the inspiration for their work, on behalf of the needy.

Mr Deng Pufang, deputy director of a welfare fund for the handicapped, who was crippled during the Cultural Revolution when Red Guards threw him from a window, said he was an atheist and "although we start from a different standpoint, we are doing the same work."

The Nobel Peace Prize winner replied: "It is the same standpoint, out of love for God in action."

The next big step, he said, would be the inheritance law, which entitled individuals to own private property. Asked how that squared with "public ownership of means of production", which is the slogan the leadership uses to ward off any suggestion that China is becoming "capitalist", Yang replied: "As a socialist country, we have public ownership of the means of production. But in the wake of economic reforms and in the face of reality, private ownership of the means of production has been developing. Many citizens now own cars and trucks and livestock."

Yang also said that when the sixth National People's Congress is convened in late March, it will examine draft legislation dealing with other issues, such as enterprises wholly-owned by foreign investors, arising out of the economic reform and the new open-door policy.

Mass graves in Andes

Amnesty condemns military 'terror'

By Collin Harding

Hundreds of people have been killed and more than 1,000 have "disappeared" since the Peruvian armed forces took charge of anti-guerrilla operations in the south central Andes two years ago, Amnesty International claims in a report published today.

There is persuasive evidence that many of the dead and the missing have been innocent victims of a terror strategy adopted by the military to dissuade the Indian peasants of the remote Ayacucho region from supporting or harbouring the Maoist guerrillas of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) movement.

Sendero Luminoso is a particularly ruthless organization, which has been responsible for hundreds of deaths since it appeared in mid-1980. It has killed dozens of alleged informers and carried out wholesale massacres in villages suspected of collaborating with the armed forces. But the guerrillas have proved impossible to wipe out, despite the commitment of up to 7,000 troops. Military tactics have consequently become increasingly ruthless.

The security forces claim to have killed 1,435 guerrillas in 1983, but Amnesty suspects that many were not combatants at all. It points to evidence of arbitrary arrests, the routine use of torture during interrogation and the discovery of mass graves of mutilated corpses in the neighbourhood of military installations.

The report presents 1,005 carefully documented cases of disappearances in the Ayacucho region and accuses the elected



President Belaunde: Rejects human rights criticisms

Government of President Fernando Belaunde Terry of doing nothing to curb the excesses of the security forces.

However, the President has consistently rejected all criticisms of his Government's human rights record.

Amnesty commends the Attorney General's office for its efforts to bring some of the facts into the open, but the judicial authorities face an uphill struggle. The armed forces say that the "disappeared" people have simply gone off to join the guerrillas and that the nameless dead in the mass graves are Sendero battle casualties, buried by the guerrillas themselves. The Government, anxious not to offend the powerful military in the months leading up to the April presidential elections, is content to leave it at that.

In the few weeks since the Amnesty report was printed, yet more mass graves have been found around Ayacucho.

Peru Briefing: Disappearances and Political Killings by Government Forces in the Andean Emergency Zone.

Artist's widow denounces tide of fakes

From Richard Wigg Madrid

An upsurge of fakes among the works of the Catalan painter Joan Miró has been denounced by his widow. "I cannot understand how collectors and buyers do not insist on proper checks", Señora Pilar Juncosa de Miró declared yesterday to the Madrid daily newspaper El País.

She explained how the fakers often reproduced elements from her husband's established paintings, presenting them as new creations. "They are real disasters as works of art but I fear the phenomenon will go on", she said.

Prices for the painter's work have been rising since his death a year ago. Señora Rosa Nalet who runs the Miró Foundation in Barcelona called on auction houses and commercial galleries around the world to take more adequate steps "to respect the prestige of Miró as an artist".

Manila curfew to curb child prostitution

From Keith Dalton Manila

A 9pm curfew on children below the age of 15 has been enforced in Manila as city officials announced a new campaign to rid the streets of the Philippine capital of child prostitutes.

"Manila has become the favourite destination of sex perverts from all over the world who come here to abuse our children", Manila's mayor, Mr Ramon Bagatsing, told police and social welfare officials.

Child prostitutes, some daily eight years old, roamed the city's tourist district at night selling their bodies to foreigners, Mr Bagatsing said.

In many cases, he said, the children were accompanied by their parents who act as their "pimps".

He ordered the police to round up suspected child prostitutes found loitering in Manila's tourist area after 9pm.

Plea for Hungarians

From Richard Bassett Vienna

Mr Peter Varkonyi, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, visited Bucharest on Monday for talks with Mr Stefan Andrei, the Romanian Foreign Minister, the official Romanian news agency reported yesterday.

The talks, which the Romanian news agency described as "friendly and cordial", are believed to have centred on the emotional issue of Romania's ethnic minority of two million Hungarians.

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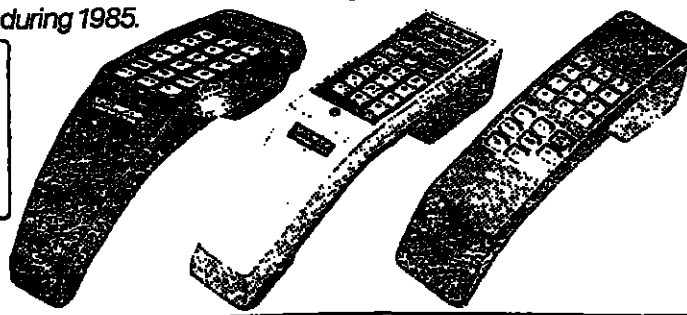
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THE ARTS

الاصول



A true femme fatale: Ann Mitchell

Schiller's genius vindicated anew

Mary Stuart Citizens', Glasgow

While Mary Stuart's historical portraits may have failed to capture her vaunted beauty and charm, Ann Mitchell's figure of the tragic queen at the Citizens' Theatre makes this femme fatale fatal.

It is not a matter of beauty, though Miss Mitchell looks regally lovely in her black Elizabethan-style costume and moves as if grace were in her genes.

She is complemented in Philip Prowse's production by Fidelis Morgan's Elizabeth, whose curly red wig and luxurious gold gown would seem to mock Mary's poverty.

Elizabeth tries so hard, while Mary appears to try not at all, and it is still obvious why most men adore the Stuart rather than the Tudor.

though her character does not emerge as admirably in Schiller, she is pitiable in Miss Morgan's portrayal.

Prowse's direction and design make many points, one of which is the no-win position of women surrounded by power-hungry men.

The beauty of Schiller's play, and of Prowse's production, is their complex balance in both aesthetic and human terms.

Robert David MacDonald's translation is lucid and spare, enabling the actors to speak with variety, feeling and rhetorical flourish without ever sounding flowery.

Prowse has devised an ingenious extra character to remind us that Mary needs to atone - at the first mention of her guilt over her husband Lord Darnley's death, his ghostly figure, blood frozen about his eyes, joins her, and is never far away until she makes her final confession and communion.

Prowse's set includes several black-draped blocks among its inky forms - a reminder of the fate at issue. His sculptured lighting which only occasionally has dimming misfires, is mostly in spotlights focused upon the speaking characters.

Robert David MacDonald's translation is lucid and spare, enabling the actors to speak with variety, feeling and rhetorical flourish without ever sounding flowery.

Holly Hill

Andromache Donmar Warehouse

Racine in modern dress we have seen before. Racine stripped of heroic gesture, heightened delivery and played in idiomatic prose is a startling novelty.

Its starting point is to bypass the cliché of Racine's untranslatable and shed the stylistic lumber altogether. This will strike the Racine lobby, for whom style and content are inseparable, as ignorant folly.

A footnote to the Trojan War, this is a tragedy in which the apparent victims survive and in which expected developments turn out to be false clues.

Sympathy is invited for a heroine who is clearly martyr material: enslaved to Achilles's son, Pyrrhus, and remaining faithful to the dead Hector even if it costs the life of her child.

On Mr Donnellan's stage, the madness is rendered in a style of quiet bewilderment, wholly in keeping with the rest of Andrew Collins's performance.

His performance, like those of the other principals, is that of a reasonable human being in the grip of an irrational force, and periodically breaking up the quiet interplay of diplomatic conversation with screams of pent-up distress.

Surrounding those tormented creatures are a quartet of confidantes who can barely

contain their contempt for their mistress. They come forward with tissues to wipe their tears away, yawn and look at their watches, and are always ready to twist the knife should Hermione or Orestes happen to forget the plight they are in.

Least interesting among the principals is Amanda Harris's Andromache, whose nobly suicidal progress through the action at least paves the way for the last act surprise.

Irving Wardle



Slightly Bloomsbury-ish but refined and voluptuous: Raymond Coxon's Reclining Nude

Galleries

Stylistic strength of years

Raymond Coxon and Edna Ginesi Michael Parkin

With the astonishing example of Chagall before us, still painting away busily as he approaches 88, the case of Raymond Coxon and Edna Ginesi, artists and coincidentally husband and wife, who are sharing a show at the Michael Parkin Gallery in Belgravia until February 1, must seem slightly less anecdotally remarkable.

Even if we are less totally transported with wonderment that they are still going strong than we might otherwise be, we shall still find a visit to the gallery very far from a waste of time.

They are undoubtedly far less well known than some of their contemporaries, such as Henry Moore, with whom Coxon was at Leeds College of Art around

1920, or Edward Bawden, an old friend who features in one of the Coxon paintings on show.

Fame or no, they both emerge as interesting and serious painters, each possessing an individual style which strengthens and solidifies through the years with, funnily enough, very little cross-reference from one to the other.

Coxon is, when he wishes, a skilful portrait-painter with a strong sense of character, well in evidence in his often-reproduced cloth-cap portrait of a slightly formidable-looking Jacob Epstein in 1948. Such pictures do not do justice, however, to his refined yet voluptuous colour sense, which is given full range in such slightly Bloomsbury-ish works as Reclining Nude in a Victorian chaise-longue. He is also a cunning draughtsman, making every apparently flutery line tell in pieces like Classical Busts and Palms or the monotype Three Bathers, both of which

also evince a beguiling, understated sense of humour.

Ginesi, though she also paints and draws figures from time to time, is nearly always equally interested in the plants which tend to surround them, and many of the most appealing works in her half of the show are intimate landscapes, flower-pieces and still-lives. She delights to trace the random-seeming yet logical patterns of root and branch, producing her own telling patterns from arrangements like Still Life with Candlesticks, and like her husband, she has a particular affinity for the subtle and demanding form of the monotype, the two examples exhibited here, The Window Box and Young Palms, Summerland Key, Florida, achieving a remarkably painterly richness and complexity.

Those already aware of the two painters' work will be happy to renew acquaintance, but the show should also make many new admirers among those encountering them for the first time.

John Russell Taylor

London debuts

Virtuoso trombone

very small, very young chamber orchestra which is one of the first fruits of the Britten-Pears training orchestra at Snape. Some of them are still students, some beginning to play with groups like the English Chamber Orchestra and the London Sinfonietta.

The trombone's potential for both beauty and comedy had been delightfully exploited in Basta, written for Lindberg by Folke Rabe, with its vocal and instrumental multiphonics and, indeed, in the theatrical clowning, brilliantly brought off, of Bricio's Sequenza V.

Serenata is the name of a

Simply because they were to be passengers next day on a CTC Lines world cruise, that shipping company set up a little

concert for two Soviet artists, Evgeny Raikov, a tenor from the Bolshoi making his London debut, and the pianist Nina Aroutshova, making her debut in the West, are both artists in the grandest of grand Russian manners; and it was a tiny room at the Warwick Arts Trust. Raikov made little allowance for the fact, blasting us with arias from Eugene Onegin and Queen of Spades, refusing to scale down his very genuine ardour for the salon miniatures of Glinka and Rachmaninov. He is, in his own way, the Pavarotti of Russian tenors, though with even less subtlety of technical and dynamic gear-changes, and far more at home in the Russian folk songs he provided as encores.

Aroutshova was a warmly supportive accompanist, and, in her own right, presented vibrantly rhythmic, over-energetic and not entirely idiomatic performances of Bach-Macello, Haydn and Scriabin.

Hilary Finch

BACK SUFFERERS! The relief you've been waiting for. NOW AVAILABLE IN IRELAND. AS SEEN ON T.V. WRONG: A sagging bed or a hard bed can aggravate back pain. RIGHT: The OBAS bed gives correct support to each part of the body, helping to bring about relaxation and relief from pain. Years of experience tell us that standard beds may not be right for every human body. We are the experts. All our beds are made by craftsmen and in appearance just like top quality 'standard' beds - but only in appearance. What's the answer? A bed from the Orthopaedic Bedding Advisory Service. Who are OBAS? We are the Orthopaedic Bedding Advisory Service. Our specialist orthopaedic technicians and our professionally qualified consultants have been responsible for the design of thousands of OBAS (single and double) beds to specifications dictated by weight, shape and medical history of each of our customers. This has included doctors' diagnoses, where known.

Television The gauntlet of eternity

To travel up the Nile is to run the gauntlet of eternity, according to Rudyard Kipling in the company of Max Hastings, another writer with an unerring ear for a fine phrase, we made the historic journey up Egypt's river last night. Alarms and Excursions (ITV) covered the cruise points in the extraordinary relationship between the British and the Nile, while accompanying the cruise launched by Thomas Cook on the anniversary of the fall of Khartoum.

Nile slipped past the rows of steamer chairs, Hastings enroled the ship's distinguished passengers in an investigation of the British obsession with Egypt. An expatriate colonel recalled General Wingate's claim that each year, on the anniversary of the battle of Omdurman, he drank a bottle of Veuve Cliquot from the gold-mounted skull of the Dervish commander. Quite a shocking thing to have done, really demurred one of his audience. A few hundred miles later an Egyptologist from the British Museum baldly cited "morbid curiosity" as the root of his subject's appeal: "Our display of mummies draws people into the museum - they have this fascination with dead bodies", he explained.

There was regret for the passing of the Victorian era, when a Nile cruise would last two or three months and the travellers were erudite. Modern tourists zip through the awesome splendours of Luxor in half a day and take their Egyptology "boned and rolled". The story of the British in Egypt was also, inevitably, filtered for consumption in an hour by the notoriously inattentive television audience, but the impression was that all the most interesting morsels were included from the young Winston Churchill's memory of a brother officer, who would not waste time seeing a temple since the experience would be profitless if he were killed, to some stirring scenes from Alexander Korda's The Four Feathers.

The only notable omission was a clear view of Max Hastings's face, which was regrettably shot in deep shade during most of his pieces-to-camera. Celia Brayfield

Michael Holroyd and Melvyn Bragg tomorrow debate the motion 'That Television is the enemy of Literature', in the Hungerford Room at the Royal Festival Hall: Richard Hoggart offers a few preliminary thoughts

Box against books

In the vexed matter of television's relations to literature it is as well to recognize first the distinction between periphery and centre. The periphery is occupied by programmes about books and authors; the centre contains television's attempts to present the books themselves.

apparently horizontal way, of stopping, looking up, thinking, going back, going on. The television script of even a short novel is itself a considerable abbreviation. What stays in probably only a few thousand words - is chosen not only to be faithful to the author's intention, though it should and above all that, it is also decided by what the medium, the visual, the left-to-right medium does best and insistently tries to enforce on those who work in it: and by what it rejects.

The periphery is all adjuncts: items on the lives of writers or the provenance of their works and especially their landscapes. Interviews, discussion programmes between authors or critics or authors and critics, all those programmes or part-programmes so attractive to producers of arts programmes seeking visual interest, colour, confrontation. Peripherals probably do little harm even though to some people they may seem substitutes for the books they arose from; but it is doubtful if many take them that way. Nor do they much lead on to a reading of the books, any more than a champagne reception encourages you to read the detailed specification of a new car it is meant to launch.

The result may be gripping and true to some facets of the author's art. But it is essentially an abstraction, a selecting. And by enforcing its own reading of the television reading (even more than a poetry reading) excludes others, blocks them out; and may make it harder to discover other readings subsequently. If the producer is both brilliant and modest we may nevertheless find ourselves feeling grateful for the result. If his reading is chiefly smart we are likely to see violence done. There is a sense in which insistent visualization is inherently anti-literary, opposed to the full processes of literature, a block or hindrance. The same applies to cinema films, though for them the critical claims are habitually over-pitched; the "greatest" of films are still thin in comparison with a great novel.

The real test comes when television sets out centrally to present, embody, a work in itself, a work of some complexity. It may well be that television tends to do better, to be truer to its own nature, when it translates a relatively thin work on to the screen. There is then less to worry about and encompass. We had best set aside here drama written for the stage. To put such a play on to television involves few new questions of principle but plenty of sophisticated technical problems; and possibilities.

It might be useful to pursue a three-part discussion of works of art: the collaborative, the presentational or performing, and the irreducibly individual. Film and television are the two most obviously collaborative art forms of today, industries in one sense, in another sense hand-made jobs put together on the spot each time. The main presentational or performing arts are clear too: drama and music. They have to be given public life by others, usually a number of others; but the limits of intervention by the performers, the freedoms, are much more strictly defined than are those of category one (not that you would always guess this from the indulgent "interpretations" of some theatre directors today). The individual or, more accurately, individualistic arts are the visual arts, poetry and the novel. They do not need other people to body them out publicly. They need, the literary ones, an internal reader. They are non-collaborative except with that reader, non-presentational.

The biggest challenge is with material written to be read, with fiction and poetry. Poetry is so much a special case and in the end untranslatable (though again some helpful stabs have been made) that we had best leave that aside too. Fiction presents all the tackleable problems, and there are plenty of those.

What we should not do is assume that television is engaged in much of a hand-on process, that the book is now more understandingly read than it was before television "presented" it. More copies may be bought. There is no evidence that more are read. There is even less evidence that the television version assists that one meaning being held in place at the same time, of echoes, memories, of the figure in the carpet unfolding, of vertical resonances in play whilst the line of events pursues its

Take some relative successes first. Yes, Henry James's novels can come across particularly well on television. We all know the irony there, in that he failed directly to be a dramatist. But on television those long conversations from the novels, usually in close-up and very well delivered, have a peculiar charm and cumulative force. And some of the adaptations of favourite classics - Jane Austen and Trollope are obvious instances - may open up aspects of the novel. Few of us can recreate in our heads the physical settings, the dress, the intonations, the landscapes of place and time. The producer offers us such a visual and oral recreation.

But they have not in any adequate sense, given us "the book". They have given us a reading, one reading of it, more or less gifted. The process of reading attentively a book of some penetration and depth is multiple, a matter of more than one meaning being held in place at the same time, of echoes, memories, of the figure in the carpet unfolding, of vertical resonances in play whilst the line of events pursues its

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SPECTRUM

In the final part of The Peacock Male, Suzy Menkes looks at the growth of men's make-up

Where do we go from hair?

THE PEACOCK MALE After the perms and highlights of the Seventies and the wild tribal coxcombs of the Punks in the Eighties, men of all ages are having their hair coloured. Today we also examine the march from aftershave to male fragrances

Hair has been the weathercock of style for two decades - ever since long hair became a symbol of protest and gave its name to the stage show. Whereas changing fashions in appearance are acceptable in women, aggressively unconventional male grooming is considered threatening by society in general and by other men in particular.

Colour came in as a weapon in the new brutality of Punk. A deliberate flaunting of unnatural plumage, spiked into a Mohican coxcomb, became a tribal identity for those who

wanted to use appearance as a protest. There were many earlier examples of short hair (or even the Skinhead shaved scalps) used to shock society that had become accustomed to longer locks.

FACE FACTS: The UK market for men's grooming and fragrance products is now worth £100 million

Men who make up using cosmetics discreetly rather than painting on a new "face". They use products bought from ordinary make-up counters or borrowed from girl friends.

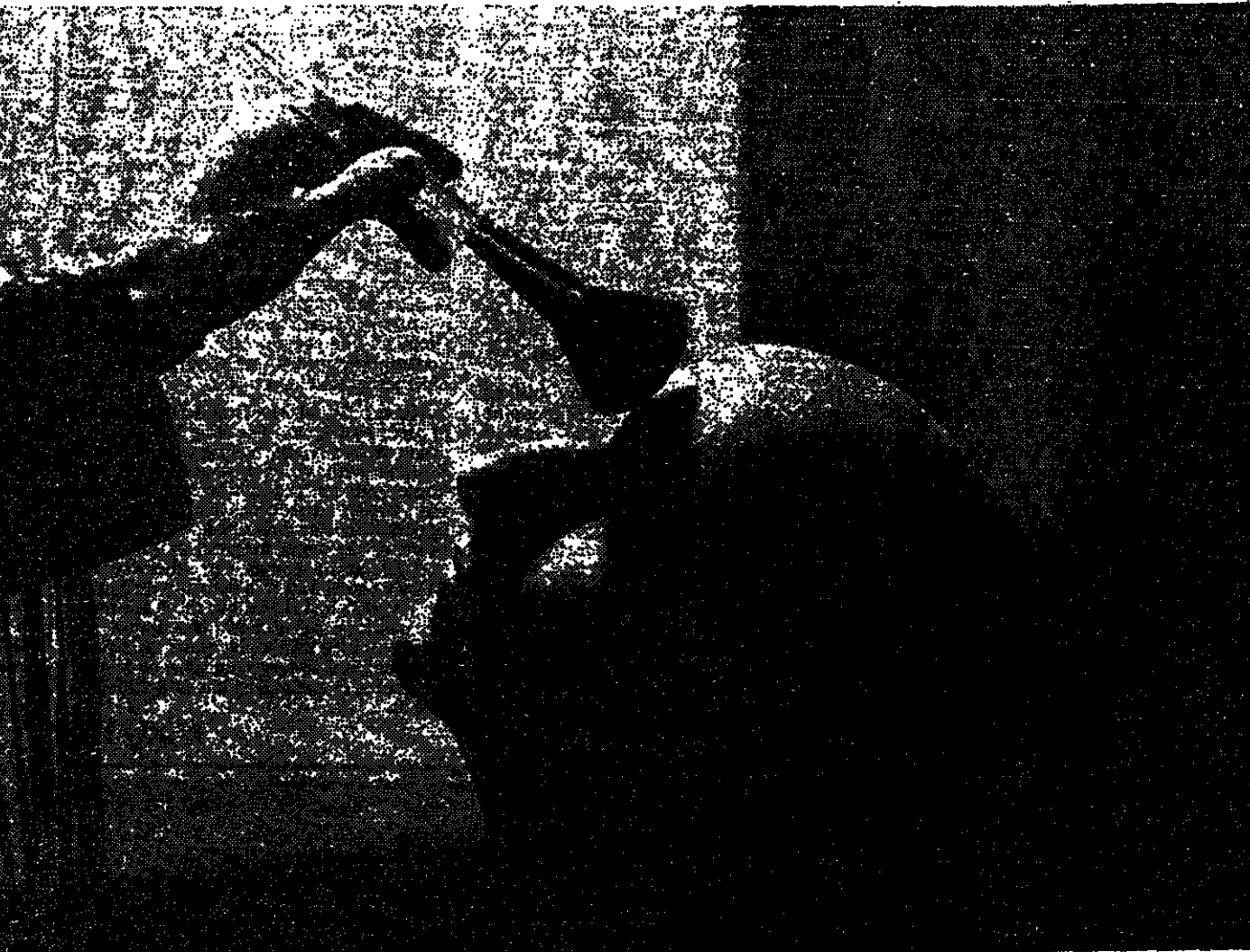


Facing up to fashion

Men who make up using cosmetics discreetly rather than painting on a new "face". They use products bought from ordinary make-up counters or borrowed from girl friends.



Above left: Jalle Bakke, professional make-up artist to both sexes at Zoo in Covent Garden. "For men I use foundation then translucent powder on top, with smoky eyeshadow to bring out colour, a little mascara and defined eyebrows. No lipstick."



Male make-up has taken over from hair as the new zone of outrageousness. Photograph by Iain McKell

ing shampoos, conditioners and controls; and styling products: the gels, mousses and spray-on colours which have completely changed the thrust of the market.

Whereas coloured hair is still considered unacceptable by most establishments from schools to business employers, the spray-on colour gives a man in a regular job the chance to transform himself into a proud peacock at night. The teenage craze last Christmas was for "make-up" parties, in which extravagant make-up and hair for both sexes took the place of the more traditional ritual of fancy-dress.

Hairdressers are in the vanguard of the changing attitudes that men have towards their grooming. Leonard of Mayfair offers salon treatments for men, including skin analysis, facial cleansing, neck and shoulder treatments and foot care.

Jalle Bakke is a make-up artist who works from a London hair salon each Saturday to create instant visages for both men and women for fashionable club evenings. "Most men want something quite subtle", he says. "I

don't use lipstick." The entire subject of male make-up is viewed with the suspicion, derision and downright hostility once reserved for the powdered wigs and face patches which were derided in the 17th century by a critic who described "a strange-ferminate age, when men strive to imitate women."

Male cosmetics are the new zone of outrageousness and are seen by many people as war-paint in a struggle against society. It all started harmlessly enough with tanning products which tinted the skin to a slightly darker tone and became more-or-less accepted in show business circles where image is all.

Boy George's make-up has been much publicized and commercialized (he has even brought out a how-to-do-it book), but his make-up, for all its brilliance, remains conventional: that is, he uses cosmetics as both men (in the past) and women have always done, to enhance and improve his appearance.

The wider side of pop has a stronger and more disturbing image, summed up by the vivid and

prophetic make-up created for Stanley Kubrick's film A Clockwork Orange in 1971. This graphic make-up, which pre-dated Punk and positively identified make-up as evil, was created by women's visagist Barbara Daly.

Very few fans follow pop heroes like Boy George or David Bowie into their wider flights of facial fancy. But young men, especially those connected with the visual and pop worlds, or those in the fashion industry, are now wearing discreet make-up.

These cosmetics are bought from ordinary make-up counters or borrowed from the bathroom shelf. The possibility of opening up a new cosmetic market for half the world's population is commercially appealing to big business. Grooming has already come out of the closet and become generally acceptable to men, although cosmetic companies stress the healthily-macho qualities of their products and the word "beauty" is taboo.

Men's fragrance is currently the fastest growing area in the industry, say Aramis, a division of Estée Lauder with three different men's grooming ranges. Aramis Original

(launched in 1966), Aramis 900 (1970), Aramis Devin in 1977/78 and JHL (launched July 1982). A man whose idea of grooming is a splash of aftershave will be astounded to learn that there are now 143 different products in these men's ranges which are the U.K. market leaders.

"There has been a strong polarization towards the premium sector in the men's fragrance market, while the mass market products have remained static," says Marbert Man.

This view is echoed by Colin Rimmer, marketing manager Charles of the Ritz and Yves St Laurent, who says: "Premium brands, that is the finer fragrances, have increased by 18.3 per cent in the year from 1982 to 1983, whereas the ordinary brands have seen just a 10 per cent rise. In fact the men's market has not expanded; at the growth that most companies have anticipated. But what is interesting is that the balance of purchases is now changing - five years ago more women were buying fragrances for men, but now men particularly under 40 are buying for themselves.

"The continental man has never had so many reservations about buying eau de toilette rather than aftershave, whereas the British man preferred the latter. Now, however, the British man is buying more eau de toilette."

At Selfridge's the Beauty Playground, a promotional scheme where

customers are encouraged to experiment with new products, men's grooming now plays an important part after being introduced in a small way two years ago.

Sport is the key to making men's face and hair products commercial. This range of male toiletries and accessories brought out by Boots last autumn took sports as its name and theme, and through that introduced a Body Fitness rub (the female's body lotion), Body Bouncer (tinted skin cream) and After Shave Balm (moisturizer). All grooming products tend to emphasize action as in "After Shave Splash" or "Active Body Moisturizer". Sports stars not only endorse clothing and create fashion images, but have also been drawn into grooming: snooker champions Steve Davis, Terry Griffiths and Tony Meo launched the Matchroom range of toiletries for Gays.

The shock of the new is as quick to fade as a moist lipstick. We are already accustomed to the man's batterie de toilette encroaching on female toiletries on the bathroom shelf. We may soon be giving him space in front of the make-up mirror.



Left: Billy, 20, from Stephen King fashions. "I wear a moisturizing cream and a Max Factor foundation, but I use it sparingly."

Right: Marque, restaurant manager. Had his make-up done professionally. "It is good to be taught how to do it, rather than make mistakes. I wear make-up when I am going out in the evening."



Above: Gordon, stylist at Antenna hair salon. "I think it is good that men can wear make-up, but it will be some time until it is socially acceptable to the majority."

Right: Daniel James, designer at Hyper Hyper Wearing foundation, brown shadow and eyeliner. "I have worn make-up for 10 years."



Picture: Russell Melkin Interviews: Christine Paineil

Filing tray (FT) to own bust (OB)

Around 2,000 graduates last week sat the qualifying test for the board which selects fast-stream entrants into the Home Civil Service. By July, 50 or 60 fledgeling Permanent Secretaries will be launched on the fast stream, into a career that could take them to the dizzy heights of Yes Minister's Sir Humphrey Appleby.

It won't be without its perils. Many will run aground in the shallows and others will get stuck on sandbanks halfway. There are at least five grades and 30 years between entry as an Administration Trainee (AT) and the top (TOP). Very few succeed.

To see what lies in store for this small select band, I walked the course. Accompanied by a shrewd Deputy Office Service Manager (DOSM), I tramped the corridors of power at the Department of the Environment (DoE). The second most important thing the young ATs will learn is that by their offices shall we know them. The first will be to talk in initials.

Civil Service life for ATs begins in an office shared with a Principal or occasionally a Higher Executive Officer (HEO). Very rarely they will be given a room on their own, which will be 72 sq ft because this is the standard size of a room with one window (module). They are, however, entitled to 75 sq ft.

Fortunately, as they will almost certainly share, they are entitled to the same carpet as a Principal or an HEO which is low loop. They are also entitled to an office table with a two-drawer suspended pedestal, a tubular chair with a stretch nylon cover which comes in five colourways and, if it is necessary, either a green correspondence tray or a linking/stacking correspondence tray.

The routing-out of the unsuitable during the six-month selection process is vicious. According to a booklet offering a guide to the Civil Service Selection Board (the CSSB or Si-Bee), suitable candidates have "high intelligence which can be put to a practical use, good judgement, penetration, foresight and the commonsense appreciation of what is likely to be politically acceptable". What they don't have is "overweening personal ambition".

"Under-Secretaries earn £29,500 - and they get curtains"

Gazing through a module across the tops of SW1, I recalled the horror of a fast streamer, currently on a small plateau, for whom the memory of his selection is as painful as ever years later.

"The first test was all right, a bit like The Times crossword. But the first board was terrible. It went on for three days with this non-stop competition and assessment. The first question the psychologist asked me was 'How do you get on with your mother?'"

"At the end of the third day I had to write an assessment of all the others on my course, naming the person I thought would do best in the Civil Service and the person I most wanted to go on holiday with."

Once accepted, the first step up the ladder, usually made within two years, is to Higher Executive Officer (Development) or HEO (D). A chap from the Management and Personnel Office (MPO) explained that HEOs (D) are put into a series of jobs which will "sort out the wheat from the chaff".

This could be debilitating. But to prevent debilitating insecurity, the Civil Service ensures continuity of furniture. Whatever the department, civil servants of equal rank have the same entitlements.

"Here we have two HEOs working in the same office," said the DOSM. "As you can see, they have three modules or 213 sq ft, which is more than their entitlement. HEOs are entitled to 100 sq ft each, less 10-15 per cent if they are sharing. But there you are."

From HEO (D) a fast mover might jump up to Principal, bypassing Senior Executive Of-

ficer (SEO), after three or four years. On today's rates, his or her income will have gone from £5,786-£8,088 as an AT to between £12,399 and £16,656. Principals are entitled to a bookcase and some more tables and chairs.

The responsibility of Principals can be positively awesome. They may oversee research into whole areas of policy which affect the running of the nation on which they will be expected to advise the minister, who may know nothing.

"Strictly speaking," said the Principal, "into whose office the DOSM had shown me, I should be here. You aren't actually entitled to single occupancy (SO) until you are a Senior Principal."

"I am actually only entitled to two windows, so I want to stress that this is a temporary arrangement." There were two small pictures on the wall. They were his own. He is not entitled

To avoid insecurity the Civil Service ensures continuity of furniture

to pictures from the Property Services Agency (PSA) until he is an Under-Secretary.

From Principal, the move is to Senior Principal, then Assistant Secretary, depending on vacancies and potential. By this time the high-flyer will have been singled out. Those chosen to serve in a private office, for instance, as private secretary to the head of a department, can probably be quite pleased with themselves. Being moved to the Treasury is also encouraging.

Most of those who set out on the fast stream can expect to become Assistant Secretaries, and when they do so they will be given a better class of carpet. Out goes the low loop, in comes the Arbor Rage (nylon acrylic). They will also be entitled to a visitor's chair (low back, swivel base).

After this, promotion becomes trickier, especially in the new slim-line, cost-effective "Service Where, so far, promotions have been handled within departments, the move from Assistant Secretary to Under-Secretary has to be approved by the MP and all Under-Secretaries-to-be are sent on a six-week top management programme.

Under-Secretaries earn £29,000 and get curtains. Not surprisingly, competition is now very tight. The fast streamer, temporarily beached, asks: "If you are a 42-year-old, Under-Secretary, you are going to spend a lot of time picking-off your rivals."

"Appointments after Assistant Secretary are surprising, but on the whole, the people you expect to do well, do."

"They are people with a great technical facility for understanding and compiling briefs, an ability to feel their way into a good, understanding relationship with ministers."

Deputy Secretaries have no more entitlements office-wise than Under-Secretaries. This seems a bit hard. They earn seven grand a year, or so, however. Permanent Secretaries, on the other hand, do as well as they like, within the realms of the PSA store room.

"I do not care much about furniture myself," the Permanent Secretary said. "This lot was all here when I arrived."

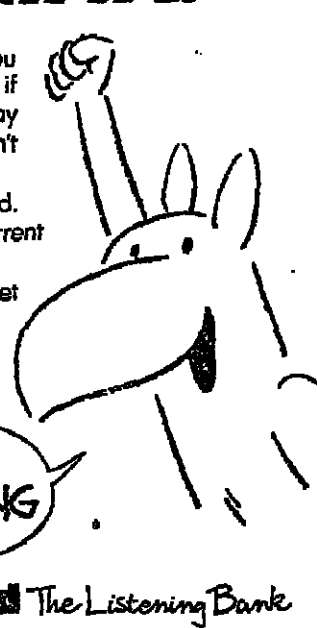
We looked down the room with its smart desk and three smart chairs, its sitting area for visitors and the conference table with the other end. "That is, except for the bust of Disraeli," he added. "I brought this with me from over the road. It's been the envy of several Tory ministers, I can tell you."

As we walked back to the starting point I reflected it was a long way from AT to the knighthood a Permanent Secretary can collect. "This is no place for prima donnas," the man from the MPO had said. "There's no place for the person who cannot take a different line from the one he thinks is best."

Barbara Toner

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What readers may not realize is that TV's arrival in the House of Lords today has led to the creation of a completely new ancient ceremony. The Mounting of the Camera. As this will not be seen on TV, we bring you today the whole of this charming ritual.

moreover... Miles Kingston. Cameraman: The answer, briefly, is: they don't. Then shall enter a sound man, saying: Sound: Hail, all. Know where the canteen is, then? After the arrival of other TV craftsmen, there follow the rituals of Unpacking, Chasing, Rising of Tempers, Losing of the Zoom Lens, Finding of the Zoom Lens and Taking of Tea. Then enter the Technical Manager.

Director: That light, it must not be hung from yonder Bishop's dais. I'll move it. All: Oh no, thou won't. That's Sid's job. Director: Where's Sid? Lighting: In the boozier. All: He means, he's taking his break. Director: Well, someone get him. Sound: I will! Now follows the Practice of Growing of Tension. Enter Technical Manager. Fake Lord: I therefore move for advertising on the BBC... Technical: Never mind that. There is no sound at all. Where's the sound? All: In the pub with Sid. Technical: Dear God! Their Lordships will be here ere long and we are doomed. All: Don't throw a wobbly, squire. All will be well. Enter Sid and Sound. Sound: You won't believe the concern they've got here! Licensed all day, and the barmaid calls you Lord!

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 551)

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Clare Co... She is at how s treats its... The Nation 25 years of interest... Poli - b no... Maureen Nicol mov... last year. Brian... would have... friends. For... she founded... and wide network... This year, the... Housewives Regis... Liberal-Minded... Housewives Regis... originally known... winter centur... more than 14,000... groups in Britain... affiliated groups... more than 24,000... according to... VHR still figures a... in February 198... suggested the... register to put... women in touch... other. The women who... also so enthusiastic... those who felt... stigmatised at home... an attractive alterna... Women's Institute... and baby club. Me... ally at members'... women discuss... politics to poetry... fact, but domestic... nates for nappy ra... make interesting r... since.

The town determined to join the city life

The motto on Wolverhampton's crest of arms reads "Out of darkness cometh light". The people of the town are hoping that the legend will prove prophetic in 1985 after suffering from a steep decline in its traditional West Midlands industrial base.

The town, once described as halfway to everywhere because of its location at the heart of Britain's industrial powerhouse, is this year celebrating its millennium with a guarded optimism that the process of economic regeneration will bring better times.

Wolverhampton is afflicted by many of the social problems of an urban area hard hit by recession. High unemployment, decaying houses and industries and a large ethnic minority population have been recognized by the Government as causing the area enormous difficulties. The authorities, led by the borough council, are seeking a fresh strategy to inject new life into the town.

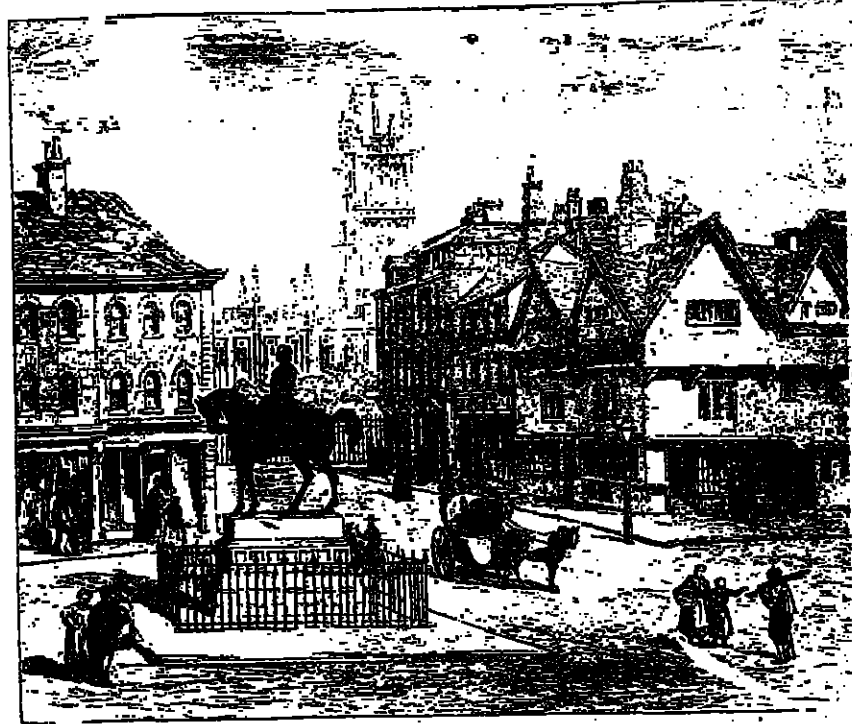
Motors truck factory, which cut 740 jobs and marked the end of motor assembly in the town, and the decision by several large companies, such as Courtaulds, to pull out.

The unemployment rate is now 18.6 per cent, with an additional 3,300 on special employment schemes. The town ranks second only to Liverpool in having the highest number of long-term unemployed. While the recession was felt harder than in most areas because of its prosperous past, there is still a great deal of manufacturing left in the town.

During the 1960s, with the boom in the motor industry, unemployment was a rock-bottom 0.5 per cent. The middle of that decade represented the peak of the town's recent fortunes and a steady decline accelerated in 1978 with the result that there is now more than 600 acres of derelict land in the borough, three million square feet of vacant industrial land and one million square feet of vacant industrial premises.

Leaders of the Labour-controlled council do not hide their bitterness at what they regard as the cavalier attitude of some companies in closing viable operations and also at Government policies which they blame for a large part of Wolverhampton's problems. Now the council has forged links with other West Midlands authorities to find a common policy for the region's problems.

A £20,000 survey commissioned by the four authorities advised them to concentrate on consolidating present industries, encouraging businesses to embrace new technology and to improve the environment to make it more attractive to prospective employers.



Wolverhampton council also offers financial backing to groups trying to set up co-operatives, and since 1981 the number has risen from five to 25 - each employing between three and 12 people. Labour leaders hope that such co-operatives could form the nucleus of thriving businesses in the future.

At the end of last year Wolverhampton was made an "intermediate area", enabling it to offer assistance to companies moving their operations to the town. However, research undertaken by the town's polytechnic, which worked closely with the council in the industrial and employment fields, has identified that the prime concern should be to "halt the rot".

Senior officials at the polytechnic claim that work on improving the environment and enhancing the town's image must be done before job creation schemes are launched.

Many of the town's long established companies which have done so only by making large cuts in their workforces. Goodyear, which has been making tyres in Wolverhampton since 1927, employs just over 3,500 workers on its 100-acre site compared with a peak of 6,500 in the mid-1970s. The major redundancy programme recently announced by Michelin at its Midlands plants sent a

shock through the Goodyear workforce, although the management believes it is better placed to survive in a highly competitive market because it took remedial action several years ago.

The long tradition of the town being a centre for political controversy continues with a highly-charged debate taking place over the council's plans to close four schools, and group six forms into tertiary colleges, which opponents suggest will dilute the quality of education. But the council, which spends 70 per cent of its budget on education, denies this and says that experience of tertiary colleges elsewhere show that academic standards are maintained.

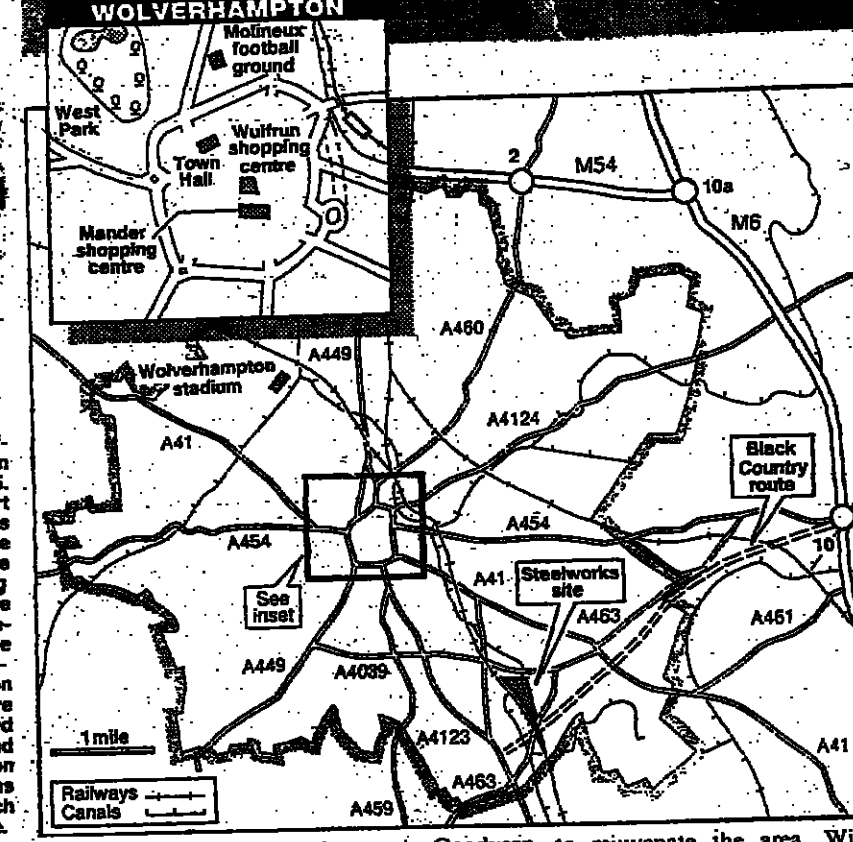
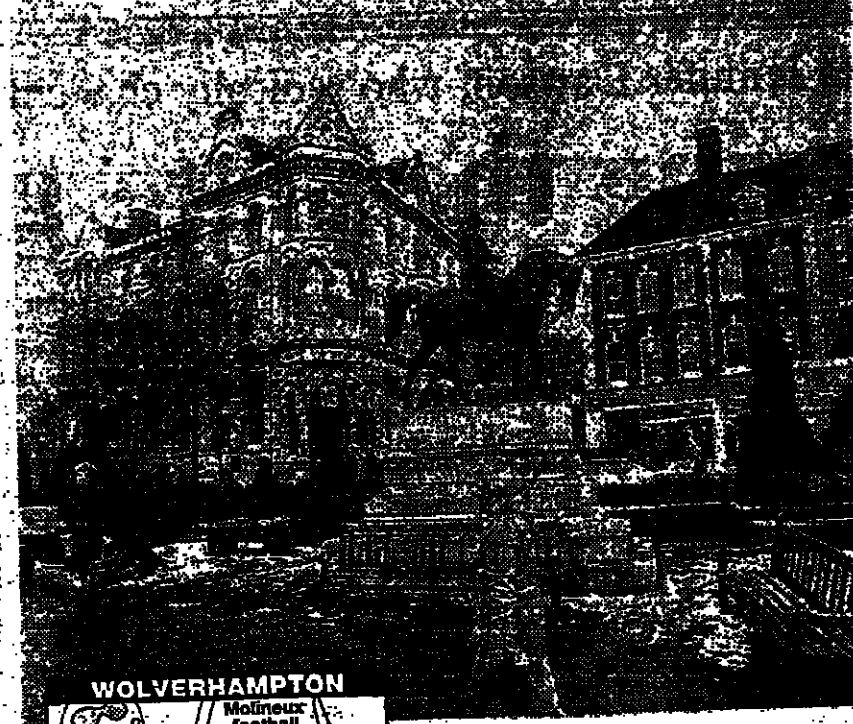
The Labour council caused another controversy recently with its recent decision to end the traditional appointment of a solicitor as chief executive and chose instead Michael Lyons, a 35-year-old economist, for the newly-created post of principal officer and policy co-ordinator. Mr Lyons, who started work at the beginning of this month, brings to the job experience gained working in the West Midlands County Council's economic development unit.

The council's ruling group, whose leaders describe their politics as democratic socialism, is committed to high spending to cure the town's problems, but



Queen Square, Wolverhampton, in 1871 and 1985. Prince Albert has lost his reins and the railings in the intervening years. The church remains, but the medieval-looking buildings on the right have been replaced by a bank, and the building on the left has retained much of the old style.

has a strict policy of not exceeding Government-imposed spending limits. The time is close for the annual rate fixing, and local speculation that the council plan a 15 per cent increase has provoked industrial concerns into trying to mount a campaign against such



has a strict policy of not exceeding Government-imposed spending limits. The time is close for the annual rate fixing, and local speculation that the council plan a 15 per cent increase has provoked industrial concerns into trying to mount a campaign against such

a large increase. Goodyear estimates a 15 per cent rise would cost the company an extra £150,000 a year.

Wolverhampton's lively political atmosphere is an indication of the controversial measures proposed by an energetic town council in a bid

to rejuvenate the area. With very few people prepared to be optimistic about job prospects in the immediate future, town leaders realise they face an uphill task but have decided that only an interventionist policy can help the town to climb out of decline.

In the fast lane towards prosperity

The completion of two roads, one an important link to the national motorway network, could hold the key to the prosperity of Wolverhampton and surrounding Black Country towns over the next decade.

A long-awaited Black Country route, which will speed traffic from the M6 into the heart of Wolverhampton, has been given Government priority, and preparatory work has started on the first section of the first phase, running through the site of British Steel's former Bilston steelworks, is regarded as a vital component in the development of the 250-acre site.

The other main highway project is completion of the final section of the town's inner ring road, which planners hope will release valuable town centre land for commercial development and give the town centre a clear identity and boundary. The ring road project, which will be finished next year, has been the source of severe traffic problems over the past 20 years.

Wolverhampton's structure plan allows for future retail developments only within the boundary of the ring road. That policy was underpinned when the Government recently refused an appeal by the owners of Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club to develop a superstore adjacent to the club's Molineux ground, just outside the ring road.

Completion of the ring will also allow the borough council to push ahead with plans to pedestrianize more of a town centre which already boasts two large traffic-free shopping areas - the Mander and Walford centres. Borough planners see this as critical in the town's development as a regional shopping centre.

But it is the Black Country route, about five miles of dual carriageway costing around £40 million, which is likely to be of greater strategic importance. At the moment, the town's link with the M6 at Walsall is by a route that meanders through congested roads in Willenhall and the town's outskirts. A direct link will make the town more attractive to commerce and industry and will also give the Bilston steel site the communications needed by a major 250-acre development.

Controversy over opencast mining

Proposals for the site have been the subject of long negotiations and controversy as the council is totally opposed to a plan by the National Coal Board for opencast mining on the site. Supporters of the council's Tory group, however, have argued that the four years' anticipated disruption caused by the mining would be well worthwhile in view of the NCB's commitment to leave the land in a suitable condition for immediate industrial development.

While the mining proposal could still go ahead, the odds are stacked heavily against it. Instead the council is backing proposals from the Tarmac construction group, which bought the site from BSC, for a mixed development of 60 per cent housing and 40 per cent for commercial, industrial and leisure projects. That meets the council's priorities of expanding the town's housing market and also helping to create employment through small business ventures.

Work on the housing is expected to start within the next year, and with the new road due for completion by 1990 the depressed town of Bilston could be given a new lease of life. The council expects the Black Country route to have a marked environmental impact on Bilston, whose centre will probably become a traffic-free shopping precinct. It is precisely because of the powerful environmental lobby in Bilston that opinion on the council went against the opencast plan.

Included in the steel site development could be a wide range of leisure facilities: a marina and athletics stadium are being mooted and the council is discussing changes to its structure plan for the area to allow the development to go ahead as quickly as possible.

Enoch's unwanted legacy

A wide-ranging community aid programme is run by the borough council to ease Wolverhampton's triple social problems: high unemployment, inner urban decay and a large ethnic minority population.

A draft of the council's proposals for spending the £5 million-plus it expects to receive this year from the Government Inner Area Programme shows a plan for environmental improvements coupled with specific aid to community projects - especially those helping the young, the old and minority groups.

Blacks and Asians, according to council statistics, have suffered disproportionately worse than the indigenous population from the effects of unemployment and poor housing. The borough has more than 30,000 Asians, Africans and West Indians - 15 per cent of all households in Wolverhampton. Unemployment in these groups is thought to be well in excess of 25 per cent, compared with the town average of 18.6 per cent.

Ever since Enoch Powell's infamous "rivers of blood" speech in the late 1960s, the Wolverhampton has been labelled as a town with racial problems. Disturbances involving black youngsters in the wake of the 1981 Brixton riots did little to dispel that impression. But town leaders say the reputation is not deserved and that race relations are good.

Wolverhampton's aim has

been to help integration of the minorities, while not seeking to submerge their cultures. The main plank of this strategy has been work in the schools, ensuring that children can speak English and encouraging their parents to learn it. This has now turned full circle with children born in Wolverhampton of immigrant families being taught their mother tongue.

Special attention is paid to helping the minority community groups, especially those catering for jobless youngsters. The ethnic groups have been given financial assistance for religious buildings, a move which has caused anger among the white population. The Tory

'Spending a lot of money won't help'

minority group on the council has accused the controlling Labour group of spending too much on race relations.

Mr Bill Clarke, the Tory leader, said he supported Labour's aim of working for integration and improving race relations, but did not believe that simply spending a lot of money improved the racial atmosphere. The Tories are particularly critical of the appointment of further race relations workers, which they say is part of Labour's positive discrimination policy that works against integration.

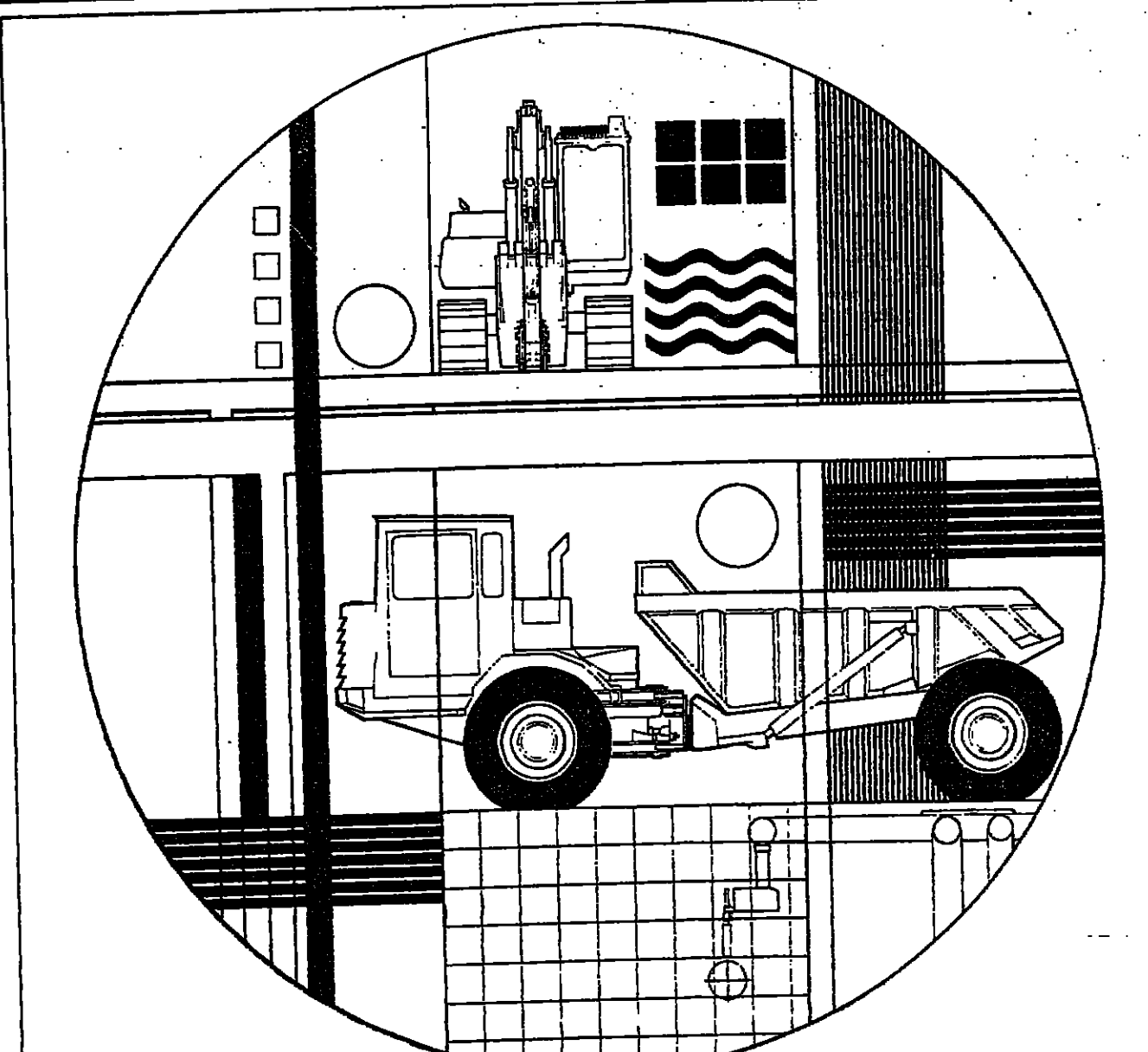
But Sir George Young, under secretary at the Department of the Environment, has congratulated the council on its spending in the inner cities and help for the ethnic minorities. In the current financial year the Government gave £4.84 million to the inner area programme, where spending was shared with the area health authority and West Midlands County Council.

The council's inner area programme for the next year identifies 32 projects, costing £370,000, which will be of direct benefit to minority groups. Nineteen per cent of all the council's social sector projects and 38 per cent of voluntary projects are aimed at ethnic minorities. Most of the spending on these groups should be in the first two years of a five year rolling programme, the draft argues.

Council leaders say that with an estimated 12 per cent of housing in the borough unfit for human habitation there is an urgent need to maintain a large modernization programme on older houses. They claim they are prevented from spending what they believe is necessary by Government-imposed spending cuts.

This year a bid to spend almost £30 million was reduced by the Government to around £10 million. Mr Dennis Turner, deputy leader of the council and chairman of the economic development committee, said: "Some of the houses are downright primitive, and yet we are only allowed by the Government to spend one third of the total that we have identified we need in Wolverhampton."

The council builds virtually no new housing now, with the exception of a special programme for the elderly and the young. There is a waiting list of around 6,000 for council housing, which reflects a reluctance by young people to share accommodation with their parents as they might have done a few years ago.



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Having fun the family way



Wolverhampton, in common with many towns ravaged by unemployment, places great importance on the provision of leisure and sports facilities to occupy the time of those in and out of work and has acknowledged the need to examine new ways of spending leisure time.

The town's leisure chiefs maintain that building sports centres and providing facilities for other participative activities is not sufficient, because not everyone is a sporting type. So they are looking at different ideas for spending spare time with the emphasis on family entertainment. The town is proud of its 750 acres of parkland and that will be the area for experiments.

But there is one traditional way of enjoying spare time over which the council has no control - watching Wolverhampton Wanderers football club. It is a pale shadow of the team that rode high in the 1950s and cast a welcome spotlight of publicity on the town. These days the publicity tends to chronic poor performances on the field as Wolves languish near the bottom of the second division, and the boardroom intrigues as the club appears to lurch from one crisis to the next.

Home attendances hover around 7,000, compared with 65,000 for games when the Wolves, managed by Stan Cullis and led by Billy Wright, were the team everyone had to beat. The slide started in the early 1960s, and apart from two brief sparks in the 1970s the decline has continued. The team is now managed by the controversial Tommy Docherty and there is continuing uncertainty over the club's future with reports of several bids to buy out the present owners, a Manchester-based property company.

Theatre is a big aspect of town life

But if Wolverhampton was famous for its football team, it also has a very high reputation in the Midlands for its cultural facilities. The Grand Theatre, built in Victorian style, has been the source of comment and argument in the town for many years and has been rescued from closure, both threatened and actual, on several occasions.

The 90-year-old theatre was closed in 1978 because the organization that ran it for the council ran out of cash. Following selective refurbishment by the council, which decided that the theatre was an important aspect of town life and should be maintained, a £2 million renovation programme was launched and the theatre eventually reopened in October 1983.

But further cash problems loomed, despite an annual £110,000 grant from the borough council. After big deficits on seasons by the Moscow Ballet and Welsh National Opera, the West Midlands County Council provided £200,000 to clear the debts. It is accepted that the theatre, now receiving Arts Council support, cannot be viable although attempts are being made to ensure it covers the costs of its stage productions.

while the council meets the running costs of the building. Wolverhampton's Civic Hall is the town's other major cultural attraction and the council stages a season of concerts each year from September to April with performances by symphony orchestras and military bands. It is also on the tour circuit for the major pop concerts.

The hall, opened in 1983 and known locally as the "Mander Folly" because it was regarded as a white elephant built by the council with the strong encouragement of the then chairman, has defied the doubters and now hosts a range of other activities, including boxing, wrestling and variety shows. With a capacity of 1,780, the Civic Hall and its sister Wulfrun Hall with 600 seats provide one of the biggest entertainment venues in the West Midlands.

The town's athletics stadium at Aldersley is the home of the renowned Wolverhampton and Bilston Athletic Club, which has been the base for such stars as track and field as javelin thrower Tessa Sanderson and runners Gary and Kathy Cook.

Metropolitan Borough of Wolverhampton	
Population	255,400
Area	17,004 acres
No. of houses	54,245 private
	40,955 council
Total council budget	£220m
Commercial properties	18,302
Industrial properties	522
Rateable value	£42,745,591
Average domestic r.v.	£218
Average cost of new 3-bed semi	£23,000

The stadium also doubles as a velodrome and is used by two leading cycling clubs. There are regular meetings at Wolverhampton racecourse, and speedway was recently reintroduced at the Monmore Stadium after a break of around five years.

Monmore also hosts greyhound racing and during the season there are two greyhound meetings and one speedway event each week. Both sports have a big following. Other major sporting attractions during the year are an annual cycling race around the town centre streets and a marathon which is hoped to attract 17,000 entrants

this year, an increase of 10,000 on last year. The amount of parks and open spaces come as a surprise in a town with an image of grime and grit created by the surrounding heavy industry. Victorian West Park, in the town centre, is a fine example of a park planned at the turn of the century. It is at West Park, as well as elsewhere, that the council is conducting a study of future leisure needs. One suggestion is to turn the town centre showpiece park into a Victorian theme park.

There are already regular summer "event" days in the parks which provide family entertainment, and the council is hoping to extend these programmes, while examining the possibility of creating a miniature zoo in one of the parks and reintroducing band music.

The Central Art Gallery, which houses a fine collection of modern paintings, and the Bantock House Museum, with its collections of engravings and period dolls, are both popular and enjoy a high reputation in the region.

Back from the economic slump

The changing face of the town's industrial base is encapsulated in the fortunes of one of its oldest engineering companies which underwent a major change in direction to survive growing commercial pressures.

NEI Thompson, once one of the leading manufacturers of boilers and other equipment for power stations, has diversified into high technology machine tools, excavators and dumper trucks to survive the recession. After hitting a low point three years ago it is now bouncing back, increasing its workforce.

The company employs 1,500 in the Wolverhampton area, a far cry from the 9,000 employed by John Thompson in the mid-

which indicates a growing confidence that the reorganized business has survived the worst and can look to a more settled future. But Mike Humpish, the managing director, is adamant that the future will depend on the company's ability to continue evolving and becoming more efficient.

"All of what happened to our company implies a huge flexibility of the workforce and management team in adapting to the new climate and business, and the flexibility of the infrastructure of suppliers in the area on whom we depend a great deal," said Mr Humpish.

The company has arranged with the Komatsu company in Japan to manufacture under licence a second generation of robot welding equipment, while its own friction welder is a world leader outside of Japan. The company holds 70 per cent of the market for concrete mixer trucks and sells tankers for transporting liquids in bulk by road.

NEI Thompson last year acquired Hymac, an excavator company, and has won a string of contracts with the Ministry of Defence for its Hydraulic heavy dump trucks which have been used by the army in the Falklands and Northern Ireland. All of this business was relatively unknown territory for the company, although it still retains ties with power generation by making storage tanks for chlorine and hydrogen and water treatment machinery.

Mr Humpish said the search for new business, and hopefully the creation of more employment, will continue - in the fields in which the company now operates and possibly new ones. NEI Thompson's aim is also to improve the quality of its products, reduce its energy costs and make its suppliers more sensitive to the company's needs.



Work and play: Canal barges (top); the NEI Thompson Hymac excavator; West Park lake and Darlington Street Methodist Church dominating the town.

Looking forward to a settled future

1960s when it was boom time for the power station business and the motor industry to which it was an important supplier. But following that peak the business began to fall off as rationalization of the power generation industry and declining markets abroad combined with cutbacks in the motor industry to force a change of direction.

Thompson celebrated its 150th anniversary last year, but the company would probably have gone out of business in the 1970s had it not been for a series of mergers with other boiler-makers: first with the Tyneside firm of Clarke Chapman, and then in 1977 with Reyrolle Parsons, another north-eastern company, to form the basis of the present Northern Engineering Industries Group.

NEI Thompson has an annual turnover of more than £50 million and over the last three years has invested £5.6 million at Wolverhampton,

1,000 years of history

Wolverhampton's bid to gain city status would, if successful, crown a year of celebration being planned to mark the town's millennium.

The last application for city status was made in the late 1970s and although unsuccessful, Wolverhampton came close to winning Government recommendation.

Wolverhampton, the High Town on the hill, was first mentioned in 985 as Heantune when King Aethelred granted lands to Lady Wulfruna; but the history of a community really starts nine years later when the Lady Wulfruna gave land for the establishment of a monastery. The town's name, derived from Wulfruna's High Town,

that process continued apace after the construction of a revolutionary blast furnace at Bilston in 1756 by John Wilkinson, one of the great ironmasters. The industrial revolution put the town firmly on the map, thanks to a wealth of local coal and iron ore; and its central location and the 20th century brought the automotive industry to Wolverhampton.

Celebrations will reach their peak during a two-week period at the beginning of June and will include a special marathon and a large procession through the town on June 8.

The Campaign for Real Ale is holding a beer festival and special 1,000 year ale is being brewed by Mitchell & Butlers.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Warsaw connection

There will be no Earl of Annandale and Hartfield bidding for stardom when the Lords' proceedings are first televised today: the last one died nearly two centuries ago. Eight generations on, however, the earldom looks set to be revived by Scottish farmer Patrick Hope-Johnstone. The Lords' privileges committee will hear soon how the earldom passed to James, the second Earl's last son, died childless in 1792. The family of the Earl's daughter, Henrietta, could not take the title because it could not prove that James' brother, Jacobite exile John Johnstone, had had no children. Burke's research director Hugh Pesketh believes that proof has now been found. In trunks at Hope-Johnstone's Lockerbie home, he found letters from the exiled brother asking for money to be sent to forwarding addresses in Dresden and Copenhagen. Research in archives there led to Warsaw, where Pesketh found that Johnstone had died childless in 1714. Hope-Johnstone, direct descendant of Henrietta, is refusing to count his chickens. "Let's see what the committee says first", he suggests with lordly circumspection.

Other woman

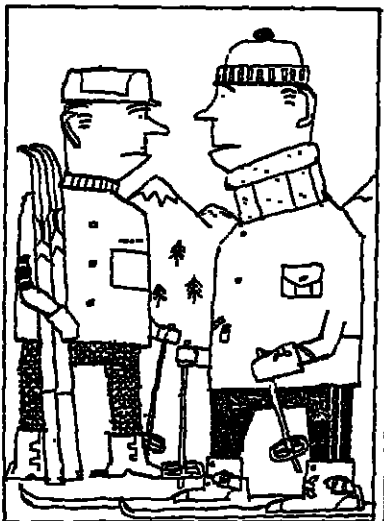
From Xanadu publishers this spring comes a book uncompromisingly entitled *Sex Scandals*. The author is eminently well-qualified to write on the subject. She is Christine Keeler, the woman at the centre of the 1963 Profumo scandal. Miss Keeler will say the publishers, take "a wary and informed look at other scandals... that have made the headlines", with "astounding comments on the hypocrisy that emerges on these occasions and on society's periodic need for scapegoats".

One book surely destined to cross the Atlantic is Florida schoolteacher Jim Mattson's collection of classroom "bloopers". Examples: "Socrates died from an overdose of pullock", "Eugene O'Neill won the pullet surprise", and "A Virgin forest is a place where the hand of man is never set foot".

In-fighting

Last week I reported Peter Tatchell's failure to be re-elected to Bermondsey Labour Party's general committee by his ward - meaning he would have to step down as party secretary. Tatchell has now been selected as a delegate by the Royal Arsenal Cooperative Society instead. Unfortunately he has in the meantime nominated one Linda Oram to succeed him as secretary. He must now fight his own nominee at the AGM next month for the post he has held since 1980.

BARRY FANTONI



Company policy

Irene McGibbon, left-bashing leader of the miners' wives' back-to-work campaign, claims her phone never stopped ringing when the NUM and the National Coal Board began talking again on Monday. It was at NUM "play" to stem the drift back to work, she says, and claims many calls were from striking miners who wanted to return but could see no point if a settlement was imminent. Most of the calls, however, came from working miners or their wives who did not want to see an early settlement: the longer the drift back continues, the more "scabs" there will be, and the easier post-strike life will prove. They presumably shared Mrs McGibbon's feelings when Michael Eaton announced that night that the talks had come to nothing. "I could have hugged him", she says.

Spice of life

Lord Wolfenden, who died last week, seems to have been something of a joker. In the 1935 *Who's Who* he listed hockey as his recreation - but subsequently changed it 32 times. In 1947 it was "Reading *Who's Who*". Selected entries since then read: 1953, Hop King; Chequers; 1954, Learning; 1958, Patience; 1963, Heuristics; 1964, Elzevirs; 1965, London squares; 1966, Innocent; 1968, Chelsea; 1970, Words; 1971, Walking about; 1972, Recreating country cottages; 1974, mares-tail; 1975, getting used to retirement; 1976, grandchildren; 1978, Wedding; 1979, picking up new words; 1980, waiting to cross the A25 on foot; 1982, trying to keep up; 1983, trying to come to terms with arthritis, bifocals and dentures. His last entry in 1984 was, appropriately, "Trying to remember".

PHS

The peace-mongers: John Barry charts Russia's road back to Geneva

Gromyko's grand design

There was a moment in the Geneva talks earlier this month when, as one of the participants put it later, "we all realized we were looking at history".

US Secretary of State George Shultz had broached American doubts about Soviet compliance with existing arms-control treaties. The Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, brushed his words aside. "The United States has been resorting to this argument ever since questions of disarmament began to be discussed after the Second World War..." he is recalled as saying. He was speaking from personal experience, having been at the top all those years.

Gromyko at 75 is at the height of his power, and apparently as fit as ever. Yet he must surely assume that the forthcoming talks will be the last for him and his generation of Soviet leaders.

Gromyko is the last active survivor of that extraordinary cadre of Soviet policy-makers who took top jobs as young men when their seniors were swept away by Stalin's purges. He arrived in Washington as counsellor at the embassy in 1939; by 1943, aged 34, he was ambassador.

He was at the great conferences - Yalta, Potsdam - which carved up the postwar world, present when Truman told Stalin that America had perfected a new weapon of enormous power, without realizing that Stalin's scientists shared the same atomic secret. It is as if John Foster Dulles were still US Secretary of State, or Ernest Bevin the British Foreign Secretary.

His status derives from his unmatched knowledge of defence and foreign affairs. The death of defence minister Dimitri Ustinov just before Christmas removed from the Politburo the last person who could challenge Gromyko on the basis of experience. It is surely significant that Ustinov's chosen successor, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, is not even a candidate member of the Politburo.

This must surely give Gromyko a particular status among his contemporaries. By the end of Reagan's second term the present Russian leaders will almost certainly have gone, replaced by younger men already on the Politburo such as Mikhail Gorbachev and Grigory Romanov. So if President Chernomir and his contemporaries want to bequeath the legacy of a stable relationship between the superpowers - and the Americans under Reagan have made it clear that a new strategic balance is part of their price for that - then Gromyko is the only man who can achieve it for them.

This is not to say that Gromyko has unchallenged power. Moscow was at pains to publicize that its preparations and positions for Geneva were unanimously approved by the Politburo. But Gromyko has emerged the victor in some important recent shifts of policy and policy management. American Kremlinologists such as Professor Jerry Hough believe that, baffled and outraged by President Reagan's hard line in his first term, groups within the Soviet leadership considered abandoning the customary Soviet concern for its relations with the United States.

One option, apparently espoused by some of the military, was simply to accept Reagan's challenge and pile up more weaponry. The Soviet Union could afford this only at the cost of desisting from all other programmes in its forward planning. Upheavals within the military - culminating in the downgrading of Ustinov's successor - show that this argument has been lost.

Another option was to concentrate on Europe and Japan and try to construct a framework of relations with America's allies - excluding America. In his short tenure at the top Yuri Andropov seemed at least to have toyed with this idea and may even have decided to pursue it.

By career and conviction, Gromyko is a believer in the centrality of the American relationship. Under Andropov his status subtly but surely declined. So did his hold over the bureaucracy of foreign policy. Brezhnev, in his years as general secretary, had accumulated within the Central Committee Secretariat a cadre of foreign policy

Over the past week many of the clouds that obscured the \$1 billion dispute between Laker and British Airways have rolled away. Last Friday the Laker liquidator, Mr Christopher Morris of Touche Ross, came out of a month-long purdah to reveal that although BA has yet to make a formal offer, negotiations between the airline and its major creditors are well under way, and that with any luck a settlement could be reached within a month.

In a major U-turn, British Airways now makes no secret of its urgent desire to bring the whole protracted and expensive business to a speedy conclusion. Where once the Laker claim was dismissed in a footnote to the accounts as a minor matter and "wholly without foundation", it is now seen as the biggest single obstacle to privatization.

The law suit was launched in November 1982 - nine months after the sensational collapse of Laker Airways - when Morris announced his intention to sue British Airways and others in the American courts for an alleged conspiracy to bring down Laker. Morris's objective was simple enough: to recover enough money in damages to repay the creditors.

BA, aided by the British government, fought stubbornly to block the action, but as the evidence accumulated it has become increasingly obvious that only a settlement offered a quick solution.

Three factors have led to BA's volte-face. The first was the opinion of its American legal advisors, Paul Weiss, Rifkind and Garrison, that success in the forthcoming civil action by Christopher Morris in the US was by no means a foregone conclusion. Secondly, the City institutions whose support is vital to



specialists who operated, particularly in Western Europe, outside Gromyko's control. Andropov, as longtime head of the KGB, had his own resources and analysts too.

Chernomir's succession - more precisely, his recovery from illness last summer and his successful efforts after that to consolidate his power - brought about Gromyko's revival. Chernomir too believed that the superpower relationship must be at the heart of Moscow's policy. And Gromyko could point to obstacles such as Russia's failure to influence the West German elections in 1983 - masterminded by the whizzkids of the secretariat - as evidence that the management of foreign policy was best left to him.

Last October Gromyko's 75th birthday was celebrated in Moscow with unprecedented fanfare. Politely, nobody pointed out that the celebrations were an unaccountable three months late. It had taken a struggle, but Gromyko was back.

The strategy Gromyko is following in the new talks with Washington derives from a study group set up early last year to review Soviet arms control policies. In November 1983 the Soviets had walked out of the Euromissile talks in Geneva; a fortnight later they had adjourned the strategic missile talks (Start) without setting a date for their resumption. In effect, the study group was asked what next?

It is unclear what Moscow had hoped to achieve by either action. One view among Sovietologists is that the Soviets had just painted themselves into a corner on the Euromissile issue, saw too late that they should have clutched the "walk in the woods" compromise, and

walked out for no better reason than that they had to carry out their threat to do so when the first Nato missiles arrived. The other view is that the Soviets hoped to provoke such nervousness in Western Europe that the Bonn government in particular would be forced to postpone further missile deployment.

Either way, it was clear by early 1984 that the walkout had been a disaster. Nato deployments were already going ahead. The Soviet Union was being blamed for intransigence. And the European peace movement, on whose efforts the Soviets had placed some reliance, were fading away. How could America be blamed if it was Russia that had stopped talking?

According to what sources in Washington are at pains to call "informed guesses", the study group was headed by Gromyko's senior deputy foreign minister, Georgi Kornienko who, significantly, accompanied Gromyko to Geneva earlier this month.

The group apparently included representatives from that section of the Central Committee Secretariat which handles arms control negotiating policy; the foreign ministry; Vadim Zagladin and Leonid Zamiatin (secretariat); Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev and General Nikolai Chervov (general staff) plus foreign policy experts such as Valentin Falin, the former ambassador to West Germany.

By late spring this group had produced a report on the failure of the walk-out strategy and a plan for a new approach. The report apparently went to the Politburo and

was approved, according to West German sources, in late April/early May last year.

Piecing together subsequent events, American sources suggest the plan was as follows:

● Return to negotiations with the United States. So long as the Soviet Union is perceived as the intransigent party, other channels of political action are blocked.

● Save face by insisting that any talks must be "new". This means finding new agenda.

● Drop as unattainable the precondition that Nato scrap or even halt its Euromissile deployments (though do not abandon the removal of those missiles as a negotiating goal).

● To replace Pershing and cruise missiles as the "American threat to world peace", to provide a fresh agenda and to give fresh fuel to the "peace" movements, begin an international campaign against American anti-satellite and anti-missile programmes.

● Seize the political initiative by calling for urgent talks to save the world from these new threats. Hope that the United States refuses.

● Do nothing to aid Reagan's reelection chances. But be prepared to move swiftly in the aftermath of his victory, on the assumption that all American politicians want to end their careers as "men of peace".

If that was the plan, it is working well. Now the tough part starts: the negotiations.

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TOMORROW

Will Star Wars split the West?

creditors lent more than \$400 million to finance Sir Freddie's purchase of the Airbus and the DC-10s and as they bore the brunt of the collapse in February, 1982, their agreement is vital to any settlement. It is on this small but influential group that BA is concentrating all its attention.

There is no problem with the 19,000 small creditors, mainly ticket-holders, who are owed less than £50,000 apiece and will be repaid in full.

Talks with the big creditors, however, are still apparently in an early stage and each party is watching the others closely to ensure that nobody steals a march. Only when these negotiations are close to a conclusion will Morris be brought in as a referee.

At present BA is talking about £50 to £60 million as the price of an overall settlement - well short of the £290 million or so needed to pay the creditors in full. So there is plenty of scope for argument. It is also uncertain whether the other nine airline co-defendants, including British Caledonian, Pan Am and TWA, share the British airline's sense of urgency. All the evidence indicates that it was BA which took the initiative, and that having got the ball rolling it then sought to persuade its rivals to chip in. As one important airline told *The Times* last week: "British Airways have tried to suggest that this is a co-ordinated effort but in fact they have acted unilaterally; we were neither informed nor consulted."

Even if there is a settlement, then, the chances are that it will be British Airways, the airline with most at stake, that picks up most of the tab.

Stephen Aris

Digby Anderson

Why not ask the paper boy?

Amid the January gloom, some cheerful news. It is reported in this newspaper that 40 per cent of school-age young people have been resourceful and fortunate enough to find part-time jobs, earn some money for themselves and do some socially useful work. They are employed in "shops... cleaning, furniture removals, building work, sewing machine and garage work" and nearly half of them earn over £1 an hour. Most worked "10 hours or fewer a week".

These are not just jobs for middle-class children: the reverse. It is "children whose parents were unemployed or in manual occupations [who] were more likely to have part-time jobs", so those families who are poorest and in most need of a little extra income are receiving it.

Perhaps even more important, the young people, many of whom are unfulfilled at school, are gaining a practical experience of work, learning not only a job but the values and discipline of work and mixing with adults. These experiences will help them to fit more easily into the world of work when the state eventually permits them to leave school and work full-time. What is more, they get some hard evidence to inform their later choice of job, and career.

I do apologize but there is more good news. Good news for the economy. The report suggests that perhaps 2.5 million of these young people are working - that is 2.5 million jobs, admittedly part-time, that we did not know about. Even better, at a time when there are few registered unskilled vacancies, many of these part-time opportunities are unskilled.

Please bear with me, the news is better still. Consumers are benefiting. Thanks to the initiative and work of these young people our shops are open longer and able to serve us more readily, and a host of jobs that might not otherwise get done are carried out. Ponder a little what your *Times* would cost if its delivery to your house were left to the tender mercies of adult trade unionists. How soon before they were unable to ensure "same day" deliveries?

The term "infrastructure" is fashionable and like many such expressions has been politicized and hijacked to refer to those industries on which various vested interests would like public money spent. But in one sense the "infrastructure" that keeps many essential parts of the economy going is the courageous black economy, those who will work to provide what customers want at a price they can afford. There you are: these young people are not only useful, they are part of the "infrastructure".

One more piece of good news. Then I promise to lead you from cheer to awe. This young economy is partly illegal and not covered by the mass of regulations which is now hardening the arteries of the formal

adult economy. There might be a fear that without the kindly attentions of trade union officials and health and safety bureaucrats, young people would be exploited. The report makes clear that conditions do not "conform to the Dickensian stereotype of cruelty and exploitation". Not in the accident rate high. Of 1,700 young people surveyed only 2.8 per cent had had any accident resulting in a visit to a doctor.

That is all the information given but we know that roughly 75 per cent of all visits to doctors involve complaints which are medically trivial (though important to the patient) or which right themselves over two or three days. Probably fewer than 12 of the 1,700 young people suffered serious hurt. Allow for the number that might have suffered accidents doing whatever they would have done instead of working, that is a very low and encouraging figure - some of today's young people's pastimes are much riskier than anything likely to occur at work. Better falling off a delivery bicycle in the snow than falling into a pot of glue.

Modesty forbids me taking the credit for all this excellent news. That must go to the Low Pay Unit which carried out the research on which the reports are based. For some reason or other they did not interpret it in quite the way I have done. They find it all bad news and want the illegal employment of young people stopped. The Low Pay Unit consists of "progressive" persons, people who usually call children "kids" or "young adults" yet in this report they persistently call them "children". I wonder why.

Progressive people are usually keen to ask the opinions of young people about affairs which concern them. Yet they don't appear to have asked them if they want their part-time jobs stopped. Progressive persons are known to be worried about "cuts in vital services" but they have not asked those who have their newspapers and furniture delivered or their needs met by the corner shop whether they want those services "cut" or increased in cost.

Progressive persons anguish in public about unemployment but these progressive persons do not rejoice at the discovery of an extra 2.5 million jobs. Most of all, poverty worries the good progressive but these people decry the substantial alleviation of poverty by youth earnings.

Finally, just as I've understood from Progressive Man that the law should be dismissed as an instrument of capitalist repression, here are the low pay chaps calling for a law and order witch-hunt to harass the young. It is all most puzzling for an ordinary unlearned man in a blazer. Genuflect a while with me and contemplate the movements of the progressive mind.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

Robin Cook

Turning the screw even tighter

I recall many years ago being placed alongside a Tory MP in front of a school audience with the injunction to justify our respective political allegiances. I went first with a stirring statement of the case for equality of civil rights, social opportunities and basic standards of living.

My sparring partner followed by endorsing my commitment to a free and equal society but distinguished between us on the basis that Labour believed in achieving equality through holding back the incomes of the successful, while Tories were committed to raising the rewards of those in poverty.

At the time this statement of concern for the poor could be shared of paternalism woven into the long Tory tradition. Thus Churchill introduced the forerunners of the present wages councils which established minimum standards of pay and conditions with the observation that "decent conditions make for industrial efficiency and increase rather than decrease competitive power".

Macmillan defended the Fair Wages Resolution which obliged contractors to the public sector to match that sector's employment conditions as "the protector certainly of the standard of living of the workers but also of the standards of competence and honour of industry as a whole".

What lends these quotations their sharp pungency is the remorseless assault on both measures by the current Tory government, which has ripped out the thread of paternalism from the fabric of its party.

The Fair Wages Resolution disappeared at the end of 1982 with immediate and dramatic effects. The Contract Cleaning and Maintenance Association reported recently that real wages in the field have fallen by one-fifth since its abolition. This year it is the turn of the wages councils to follow into the history books. They would have vanished sooner but for the discovery that their abolition requires the revocation by Britain of an International Labour Organization convention.

Nothing daunted, the Government has served notice of its intention to do so and plans are now in hand for the extinction of the councils in July, the earliest possible date.

The wages councils in this twilight year of their existence still provide minimal protection for almost three million of the most vulnerable workers in low-paid industries. It is difficult to believe that anyone could regard the rates they set as excessive, since the current top earnings of

workers coming under wages councils, in hotels and licensed restaurants, are £1.86p per hour - well below the gross wage required to keep a family of four above supplementary benefit level.

Balked of its wish to do away with wages councils immediately, the Government has resorted to harassment. Although it cannot prevent the wages councils from setting minimum rates it has been able to reduce the number of inspectors employed to police them. This is particularly perverse as almost 10,000 firms inspected in 1983 were found to be paying below the legal minimum, comfortably over a third of all firms visited in that year.

The number of firms who were picked out for prosecution amounted to a grand total of two, which is carrying tokenism to vanishing point.

Another flanking manoeuvre by the Government was the introduction of the Young Workers Scheme which for the first time offers a public subsidy to poverty wages paid by the private sector - currently £15 paid towards any post provided at a wage of less than £50. Predictably, cases have since been uncovered of firms involved in the scheme paying wages that are in breach of the statutory minimum set by the government-appointed wages council.

The Department of Employment itself admits that three-quarters of the jobs supported by the Young Workers Scheme would have existed in its absence, although possibly at a living rate of pay. In other words the scheme cannot be dressed up as an incentive to job creation, but stands nakedly and unashamedly as a device to encourage the payment of lower wages.

Its success in fostering exploitation receives testimony from a recent survey by the assiduous Low Pay Unit in the West Midlands, which uncovered a timber merchant and a leather goods manufacturer employing youngsters drawn entirely from the Young Workers Scheme and the Youth Training Scheme, the nearest parallel the twentieth century has to offer to child labour.

In that exchange long ago in the classroom I did not seek to justify teaching my Watergate history. I have always held Marx's contention that history is a succession of class struggles to be a gross oversimplification. After six years of this Government I am no longer so sure. The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

STILL... From yesterday... The eighth congre... Bath Party, w... Sunday night... an unexpected... apparently sear... the obscure po... book Syria's... direct conse... of President H... previous autu... That illness... of the sum... minds of many... that of the Pr... Rifat, comman... minister but p... At the end of... Syrian strategi... in Lebanon with... the "multinatio... the abrogation... Israeli agreem... Assad attempte... a coup d'etat i... directly against... against others... particularly of... armed forces -... would not easily... succession. It failed becau... who had eviden... recovery than... gained for, did... this premature... flexing of mus... ransacked his... tanks that had... surrets returne... the same time... named three vi... whom his brot... name appeared... list, after that... Haim Khadda... foreign minist... cance of this or... aciey blurred... know for sure... had won or lost... uncertainty con... porters and th... commanders. The next act... when Rifat w... special mission... accompanied b... leading military... never returned... returned to D... was no longer... repaired instea... property outsi...

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

STILL BIG SPENDING

From yesterday's White Paper we learn quite plainly that the Government has failed to cut public expenditure. In the doubtful event that it succeeds in hitting its next three annual targets, the state will still, at the end of this Parliament, be absorbing the same share of national income as it did in Mrs Thatcher's first year of office. And this, in turn, is a significantly larger share than the Labour Government absorbed in 1977-78.

Even against the narrower measure of its specific promises, the Government stands condemned to failure. Its aim - not easy to make politically plain - has been to hold public spending constant in "real terms", that is, rising no faster than inflation. Yet the real cost of public expenditure has risen every single year since 1979: by the current financial year the cumulative increase was nearly 10 per cent.

Mr Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary, defends his Government by pointing out that spending previously rose even faster. But this yearly increase provides precious little reason for confidence that the Government will now succeed in inching down the real burden of spending. For we are now, as the Chancellor likes to remind us, in the fourth year of an economic recovery - the economic phase in which it should be easiest to control spending. Admittedly, this year's overspending (which the Government may still be underestimating) has been boosted by the miners' strike, a special excuse which would be more convincing if it did not follow years of continuous increase.

There are perhaps two reasons for hoping the Government's performance will improve. The first is that gradual extension of its control over local government spending, where the gap between naive hopes and actual results has been widest. The second is that, since 1982, the Government's year-by-year plans have proved a little more realistic. Compared with its plans laid down in its first medium-term strategy in 1980, all of which have been wildly exceeded, the cash plans laid since 1982 have been more or less adhered to - with the exception of this year.

THE BROTHERS ASSAD

The eighth congress of the Syrian Baath Party, which ended on Sunday night after meeting for an unexpectedly long 16 days, apparently seals the outcome of the obscure power struggle which shook Syria last spring, as a direct consequence of the illness of President Hafiz al-Assad the previous autumn.

That illness raised the question of the succession in the minds of many, and not least in that of the President's brother Rifaat, commander of the paramilitary "Defence Brigades", of sinister but powerful reputation. At the end of February, just as Syrian strategy was triumphing in Lebanon with the departure of the "multinational force" and the "abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, Rifaat al-Assad attempted something like a coup d'etat in Damascus, not directly against his brother but against others in the regime particularly of whom he knew would not easily acquiesce in his succession.

It failed because the President, who had evidently made a fuller recovery than many had bargained for, did not take kindly to this premature "Prince-Hal-like flexing of muscles. He firmly reasserted his authority, and the tanks that had appeared in the streets returned to barracks. At the same time, however, he named three vice-presidents of whom his brother was one. His name appeared second on the list, after that of Mr Abdul-Halim Khaddam, the former foreign minister, but the significance of this order was deliberately blurred. Hardly anyone knew for sure whether Rifaat had won or lost. For some weeks uncertainty continued, with visible tension between his supporters and those of the army commanders.

The next act in this curious drama came at the end of May, when Rifaat was sent on a special mission to Moscow, accompanied by two of his leading military opponents. The purpose of this mission was never disclosed, but when it returned to Damascus Rifaat was no longer with it. He repaired instead to his luxurious property outside Geneva, and

Government has been agreeably surprised by the out-turn for inflation, a factor which has helped to ease public-sector budgets. With the pound so low, the Government's short-term inflation forecasts are coming under new pressure: while its efforts to get back on track imply a squeeze next year which will be hard to achieve.

The Government's favourite tools for forcing the figures into the plans provided have been to put clamps on labour costs and price-tickets on public-sector assets. It is still depending on the same techniques: the latest White Paper increases the Government's yearly targets for proceeds from privatization. These targets are not unrealistic, while substantial contingency reserves may suffice to absorb some slippage on costs.

But they will only prove adequate if the Government is able to meet its policy targets for individual programmes; and the weakness of this White Paper is that the hard decisions these imply are still stated with insufficient determination. There is still too much effort to placate individual spending lobbies with soothing platitudes that their programmes will be kept "under review". One has, for example, to dig pretty deep to discover the plans imply a real cut in defence expenditure in the last years of this Parliament.

It is precisely this method of tossing figures into publication, and hoping they can be made to stick, that has entangled the Government in so many last-minute battles on spending. There is a little more evidence that major changes are being considered, if not set in political concrete, in this White Paper, which is noticeably clearer than its predecessors. There is still not enough.

And yet the need is even more urgent. For the most disturbing figures appear right outside the planning total on which the Government likes to argue its case for gradual improvement in expenditure control. This White Paper shows that the Treasury expects the bill for servicing the Government's debt to be £1½ billion higher in 1985-86, and £2 billion higher in 1986-87, than it was forecasting last year. That is not included in the "planned" total on the grounds that there is precious little the Government can do about it. But the bill still has to be met out of tax revenue, unless the rest of public spending is cut to fit; which means - failing some taxation windfall - out of Mr Nigel Lawson's scope for tax cuts.

for the next six months divided his time between there and Paris. In September the defence minister, General Mustafa Tlas, publicly confirmed what many had suspected: that Rifaat had in fact been exiled by his brother. "He is for us persona non grata for ever", the general told Der Spiegel. "Whoever says no to President Assad will be shorter by a head." Whereupon a spokesman for Rifaat retorted that the latter was still Vice-President and "will soon return to Syria and take up his national responsibilities at the side of the President". The mystery remained unresolved.

Act Three: at the end of November President Mitterrand visited Syria. Rifaat returned on the same day, and was seen at the banquet in M Mitterrand's honour. His return was not publicized in the Syrian media, but was reportedly saluted by some of his supporters who fired their rifles in the air. According to semi-official Syrian sources, however, these were only a dozen private soldiers, half of whom have since been dismissed from the army while the other half were arrested "for shooting without a licence". The same sources say that Rifaat had in fact been summoned back to Damascus by his brother after rumours that he was about to launch a newspaper or magazine in Paris and even an announcement on the widely-heard Arabic service of Radio Monte Carlo that he would speak "seriously, openly and freely" on the air.

Rifaat has kept quiet since his return to Syria, and now has been re-elected to the 90-member Central Committee of the party - but not, it seems, to the much more important 21-member Regional Command (so-called because in Baathist doctrine Syria is only a region of the greater Arab nation). Next month Hafiz al-Assad will formally relinquish the presidency in order to run as the party's candidate for another seven-year mandate in March. His re-election is, of course, a mere formality. The same is certainly not true of the reappointment of one or more of his vice-presidents.

Cutting funds for 'big' science

From Professor D. C. Colley Sir, You have briefly reported (January 11) my resignation from the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC), on which I served as chairman of its nuclear physics board. The specific reason for my resignation was what I consider to be unacceptable treatment of the nuclear physics board in the distribution of the additional £11 million recently provided by Sir Keith Joseph for the science vote.

During the last decade there has been within SERC a substantial transfer of funds from "big" science i.e. nuclear physics, astronomy and space research - to "other" science and engineering. Since 1975 the share of SERC's funds taken by the "big" sciences has fallen from 60 per cent to 40 per cent. Most of the reduction has been in money for nuclear physics, which has suffered to a degree that activities in this subject are now being seriously curtailed at a time when scientific opportunities of unprecedented excellence are available to the UK community.

In spite of this drastic reduction there is continued pressure within SERC for further cuts. This pressure stems from the view strongly advocated within the council that preference should be given to projects of directly perceived utility, apparently in the belief that this will save the UK economically.

While I fully support the need for projects of this kind I do not believe

that they should be given such priority over pure research, typified by "big" science, that the future of whole disciplines is placed in jeopardy, as is now happening. Pure scientific research has an excellent record of generating applications and leading to the creation of wealth, often in ways that were quite impossible to predict. It also merits support because of its intrinsic educational and intellectual value.

SERC is the only realistic source of funds for this type of research. Its resources, half of which already go to applied activities, amount to only 6 per cent of the Government's total expenditure on research and development. Further transfers can thus be expected to make at most a marginal impact to the overall applied R and D effort in the UK.

It is my belief that the extra funds needed to finance increased applied research should come primarily from bodies most likely to derive direct benefit, such as Government departments and industry. Current policies, if continued, will very soon destroy this country's standing as a scientific power. Scientists, both pure and applied, should unite in a concerted effort to prevent this happening.

Yours faithfully, D. C. COLLEY, The University of Birmingham, Department of Physics, PO Box 363, Birmingham, January 15.

Assessing the competence to teach

From Mr Max Morris Sir, Professor Honey's argument on teacher incompetence (January 16) is as flawed as his statistics are bizarre. It will take more than 100 years to purge the service of the hard core of real shockers, some 6,000, it is alleged. Our serving teachers would be very incompetent indeed by 2085 and will have sacked themselves into the grave.

Having correctly admitted that "the main problem is the system by which teachers are certified fit to enter the profession", Honey immediately proceeds to discipline main stream teachers by blaming their colleagues for higher education - rather a glaring contradiction.

All experience shows that really incompetent teachers begin incompetent - they do not have it thrust upon them by schools. They are badly trained and should never have been certificated. Those who train them often lack the necessary experience to know, except theoretically, what the qualities of a good class teacher are.

A report in The Times Educational Supplement, January 11, of research by the University of Lancaster, which looked at 777 staff in 17 teacher-training institutions, found that very few teacher trainers - in some places not one - have any recent teaching experience. Of college teaching staff 82 per cent had experience only of teaching in secondary schools; on the BED infant course 69 per cent had no

infant teaching experience and half of those on junior courses had never taught in a junior school.

This is the nub of the problem. Over the years, it is true, some teachers will deteriorate in quality without inservice training, which has been neglected. And for those who become incompetent there has for some years been the expedient of early retirement with pension compensation. But such teachers are not Honey's "shockers". These are due to his own faulty certification.

Instead of sniping at the hard-pressed teaching profession and their unions, he should be leading a crusade to reform, indeed revolutionise his own sector, which is where the trouble starts. Just imagine any other profession training its future members in this way? Yours etc, MAX MORRIS, 44 Colnhurst Road, N8, January 16.

From the Headmaster of Cheltenham College Sir, The appraisal system has been in operation at Cheltenham College for the last three years. Common Room refer to it as the MOT.

Masters agree that performance is improving. Yours faithfully, R. MORGAN, Headmaster, Cheltenham College, Gloucestershire, January 17.

Broadcasting's future

From Mr Derek Bloom Sir, The proposals made in your leader of January 16 would take a very long time indeed to develop, agree and implement, but the financial proposals are immediate. One relatively rapid answer would be to pool the income of ITV and the BBC, so that both were sustained by licence fees and by advertising revenue, without the difficult innovation of commercials in BBC programmes.

Assuming a small rise in the fee and the abolition of the Treasury levy, there would be sufficient funds for both systems to afford quality programmes of popular and minority interest. It cannot be beyond the wit of man to devise an acceptable and workable formula.

Proposals which would require the BBC to broadcast commercials take little account of the elasticity of demand for advertising airtime. At the extreme, if BBC1 and BBC2 went over to a fully commercial operation, so that the amount of airtime on offer approximately doubled, the advertising revenue attracted to television would not double.

It might rise by 40 per cent to 50 per cent and the BBC's share would be diminished by the considerable cost of setting up and running its own marketing and sales organisation. A lesser increase in airtime would make for a smaller gain in advertising revenue without reducing the sales cost.

Your leader writer approached the issue in a radical and objective spirit, but it might be worth considering the potential effect on the advertising revenues of other media - not excluding The Times. Yours faithfully, D. BLOOM, 47 Old Church Street, Chelsea, SW3.

NUJ election

From Mr T. Sales Sir, May I write in support of the letter from the NUJ chapel (January 12) about the prominent position in your paper in which you allow Mr Bernard Levin to air his views.

I know nothing about the NUJ elections, but I remember how Mr Levin has in the past been granted space, for example, to complain about gas supplies to his mother's house and to advertise for a secretary. In the context of his articles about Vietnam or the USSR, these personal problems are quite out of place.

Surely, if Mr Levin wishes to exert his influence in any of his own affairs, he should do so by advertising in your personal columns and pay the appropriate fee as the rest of us have to. Yours faithfully, TOM SALES, 6 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11, January 12.

Time to draw stumps

From Mr R. Miles Sir, At the beginning of the last world war, iron railings were removed from public buildings and squares in London and the rest of the country. Alas, very few have been replaced and the scars still remain today outside many great buildings and squares.

The royal of rusting stumps outside the Royal Geographical Society, opposite Kensington Gardens, where the railings were crudely broken off, are a particularly sad example.

Would it not be a good idea if Mrs Thatcher's Government gave a tax exemption to all persons and companies who replaced their railings in a pre-war manner? This would not only improve our environment but create employment.

I remain yours truly, ROY MILES, 3 Trevor Square, SW7.

Youthful reflections

From Mr Edward Hubbard Sir, In referring to the copy of J. H. Foley's "South at the Stretton" at Stumped-upon, Miss Patricia McFarland (January 12) refers to it as being dated 1844. This, and not 1851, was the year in which a version of this important piece of Victorian sculpture was exhibited at Westminster Hall.

The 1851 showing of Hatfield's bronze cast was at the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, as part of the Great Exhibition.

Yours faithfully, EDWARD HUBBARD, 88 Osmond Road, Preston, Birkenhead, Merseyside.

Famine in Ethiopia

From the Director General of The Save the Children Fund Sir, Mr Charles Morrison takes as the basis for his letter (January 12) a statement from an earlier article in The Times (January 3) on developments in the Sahel that "the central problem is over-population following the advent of modern medicine".

In fact the relationship between modern medicine and population growth is very uncertain. Medical advances such as the elimination of smallpox have had an effect on population growth but in countries like Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, where the average inhabitant has little or no access to health care services, worth the name, modern medicine cannot be its root cause.

Population growth clearly compounds the problem of food shortages. If there were fewer people the food would go further. However, to look at it as the cause of the problem is a mistake. Over-population must, by definition, mean over-population in relation to

Long-term look at countryside

From the President of the Country Landowners Association

Sir, The letter from the chairmen of the two countryside commissions and of the Nature Conservancy Council (January 10) is much to be welcomed. The matters raised need the most careful consideration. They are, however, as the chairmen recognise, massive in their scope.

The chances that Government departments, as at present constituted, would find time to produce a comprehensive strategy for the countryside between now and the next general election must be questionable. The chances that the Government collectively would approve that strategy and publish it in the period leading up to the election are perhaps even more doubtful.

In the long run the problems of the countryside would be dealt with more easily if the responsibilities of departments were changed so that many more of the whole range of questions that have, perforce, to be looked at together fell within the competence of one minister instead of being scattered throughout Whitehall as now.

The next most suitable alternative, if only the Government could overcome its distaste for it, might be to set up a committee of inquiry. The Scott report on land utilisation in rural areas was published in 1942. Once roughly every half-century hardly seems too often for a major independent review.

At the meantime it is surely for every organisation concerned with the countryside to work out its own views on how the future of our rural areas can best be assured. The Country Landowners Association is doing just that. The Ministry of Agriculture for its part should be clarifying its policies for British farming.

Strategic defence

From Mr Richard Worcester Sir, General Abrahamson, head of the Strategic Defence Initiative, and others make the point that the main purpose of the SDI is to intercept CBM intercontinental ballistic missile boosters; but the primary aim must surely be to upset the other side's firing mirrors. It is not necessary to hit the 1,400 boosters and a much easier task is to point the beams at 150 or so vulnerable platforms. Then it is possible to say "we now can destroy you and you cannot hurt us".

It is a contest won by the first nation to pose this "checkmate". And when nations say that they are for or against "star wars" it means nothing, as this frantic race has been under way five years. The USSR has at least 15,000 people working on it, plus huge space station costs so the Reagan call last year and the \$25.5 billion for the next five years is a belated US response.

The USSR is outspending the US by a wide margin though they need a long lead to test their lag in multi-processor computing sciences. If the USSR were to win this race we

would be faced inextricably with the choice - surrender or lose the mirrors. The sufferer would not be - or should not be - mankind but rather the loser's ideology. This therefore is perhaps a make-or-buy race that the USSR and the West each most desperately has to win. It's a whole new situation as the second strike deterrence concept would be no longer feasible. The loser has lost everything, at the speed of light - the power to strike and the means to defend himself.

MAD (mutual assured destruction) should hold the status quo until damage denial is declared in its place. In this concept the winner can win and the loser can lose without the torture of destruction. As in Grand Master chess when, half way through the moves, both parties have fathomed out the inevitable verdict and later episodes are conceded. It could not end conflicts in the world but the winner would be left to supervise removal of every vestige of the global nuclear threat.

Yours truly, RICHARD WORCESTER, Sussex House, Parkside, Wimbledon, SW19.

Archaeologists have no wish to see the British countryside turned into an open-air museum. It is, after all, the history of the changing British landscape which is one of the more fascinating aspects of current research. However, archaeologists are anxious to see that at least a sample of our common past is preserved.

Yours faithfully, T. G. HASSALL, President, Council for British Archaeology, 112 Kennington Road, SE11, January 21.

Cancer research

From Mr B. C. Dodd Sir, The report, "Cabinet ignored cancer link with smoking" (January 7) could be interpreted to mean that the Medical Research Council, because of the receipt of a £250,000 donation in 1954 from the tobacco industry towards the development of the researches on cancer of the lung which the council were then promoting, acquiesced in a decision to ignore expert advice on the danger of smoking.

To put the matter straight, I should like to make it clear that before the donation was accepted it was stated unequivocally to the tobacco manufacturers that: 1. Acceptance of the donation by the council would in no way influence the council in expressing their views, in choosing subjects for research or in the publication of results.

2. If the council felt it necessary to comment, adversely or otherwise, on any statement issued by the tobacco manufacturers, they would not hesitate to do so. 3. The council fully supported the

Police and miners

From the General Secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties

Sir, There is an implication in your Diary (January 16) that NCCL's independent inquiry into policing of the miners' dispute modified its report in response to outside pressures. This is not true and never will be true. The inquiry is a key part in a coherent strategy for a firmly principled civil liberties analysis of contemporary social issues.

The political signposts pointing the way towards a non-partisan perspective on civil liberties are clear and exciting. The newly established All-party Parliamentary Civil Liberties Group (Geoffrey Rippon, QC, chairman; Alf Dubs and Alan Beith, vice-chairmen; Matthew Parris, secretary) is the surest possible parliamentary assent to the ideal to which NCCL aspires.

There is a new coalition of political interests for civil liberties in this country which will be nurtured and strongly defended. Yours faithfully, LARRY GOSTIN, General Secretary, National Council for Civil Liberties, 21 Tabard Street, SE1.

Acid snow

From Mr A. R. Doe Sir, The acid rain monitoring station in my department registers values of pH 3.6 on melted snow. This is extremely acid and has caused some surprise to my students. Is acid snow a common phenomenon?

This acid snow is obviously in contact with plants, including trees, for long periods and when snow-melt takes place this acid solution is released en masse to the soil and root system.

As the effects of acid rain are most marked in areas of coniferous forest in Europe should we not be directing research to the problem of acid snow-melt? Yours faithfully, A. R. DOE, Head of Geography, Bembridge School, Isle of Wight, January 17.

happen is regular access to basic immunisation and health care services.

In Ethiopia there are few roads and therefore little contact between the rural population and the slender health services that exist. Immunisation coverage in the Highlands only reaches a few per cent of all eligible children. For the same reason there is no possibility at the present time of providing family planning services, which require regular contact between service and customer.

The logical stages for the long-term development of Ethiopia are first to develop the agriculture and the infra-structure; secondly to develop health care services and thirdly to develop family planning services.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS HINTON, Director General, The Save the Children Fund, Mary Datchelor House, 17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, SE5, January 15.

Underprivileged

From Mrs Phyllida Gardner Sir, This year is International Youth Year. We have had the Year of the Child (1979). It nothing is yet designated for 1986 (and who, by the way, does the designating?), could it be the Year of the Middle Aged - a much neglected group at all times.

Yours faithfully, PHYLLIDA GARDNER (middle-aged), Silver Birches, Willington, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire.



ON THIS DAY JANUARY 23 1801 Queen Victoria died at Osborne House, Cowes, Isle of Wight, on January 23, 1901. She was 82 years of age and had reigned since June 20, 1837. Relations between The Times and the Queen had, over the greater part of her reign, been abnormally close. Her death, being announced in the Times, was the subject of a 30-page report which appeared marked with thick, funeral column rules. It included a report from Cowes (in rather purple prose) by a stringer - J. E. Vincent, a three column leader and an obituary of over 600 words written by T. H. (later Sir Thomas) Ward and Brinsley Richards.

DEATH OF THE QUEEN

It is with the most profound sorrow that we record the death of our much loved Queen.

Throughout yesterday the blow that has overwhelmed in grief the people of the British Empire was awaited with universal and almost breathless fear, which grew more tense and poignant as successive bulletins revealed its imminence. At 7 o'clock suspense was ended by the following message from the Prince of Wales to the Lord Mayor, which was instantly made public: -

"The Prince of Wales to Lord Mayor. "My beloved mother, the Queen, has just passed away surrounded by her children and grandchildren." "ALBERT EDWARD" Immediately afterwards arrived the final news bulletin, couched in much the same words: - "Osborne House, Jan 22, 6.45 p.m. "Her Majesty the Queen breathed her last at 6.30 p.m., surrounded by her children and grandchildren." "JAMES REID, M.D., "R. DOUGLAS POWELL, M.D., "THOMAS BARLOW, M.D., "AT OSBORNE (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

All day long the Angel of Death has been hovering over Osborne House. One could almost hear the beating of his wings, but at half-past 6 those wings were folded, and the Queen was at rest. To those who knew her Majesty best, and most closely, as some of them have told me, the whole event seems incredible and unreal. To all of them the life of the Queen has seemed a part of the natural order of things, a thing as certain as the rising or the setting of the sun; and they are simply incapable of realizing what it means, and that feeling will be shared by almost all of those who were the Queen's subjects, but are now the subjects of him who was the Prince of Wales, and to whom no new title is likely to be generally applied until after the Queen's funeral. Foreseen and expected as the event has been, it is a shock now that it has actually come; and the effect of it has been to cause a feeling of stunned bewilderment and grief, which is the present to drown all expressions of grief. Not that Osborne House is not full of sorrowful hearts, from the heart of the German Emperor, whose coming has been a real comfort to the Royal Family, to those who were within reach of the house. That feeling will extend over the country, and it certainly is felt by me in such measure as to render the task of writing very difficult indeed.

The Queen is gone from her people full of years and honours. The loss is irreparable, but they may take some comfort from the thought that for her the beautiful prayer of Tennyson has been exactly fulfilled. That which he wrote, in dedicating the "Idylls of the King" to the late Queen Consort, in an address to the Queen was: - "May all love, His love unseen, but full, overshadow Thee, His love that compasses Thee, The love of all Thy daughter-children Thee, The love of all Thy people cherish Thee, 'Till God's love set Thee at His side again."

All this might now be written with abundant and full truth in the past sense, of a Queen without stain and without reproach, who has passed away full of years and honours.

Now for the necessary narrative of the events of the day. All last night the Queen lay in a very restless state. It was locked, the only person allowed within being the doctors, the dressers, and two maids, who were under the superintendence of Nurse Soel, from the sanatorium on the estate. The early morning bulletin, which spoke of diminished strength, showed that the end was drawing near, and in the meanwhile all the members of the Royal Family who were within reach were summoned. The Bishop of Winchester, too, was summoned, and was with the Queen to the end. Before noon the flickering flame of life burned no more brightly for a moment, and her Majesty was able to recognize those who had been summoned to her bedside. Then she fell asleep.

Yours faithfully, JOHN PENNAN, Forest View, Upper Chute, Andover, Hampshire.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 22: The Queen this morning visited the Sandringham and West Newton Primary School, where Her Majesty was received by the Chairman of the Governors...

CLARENCE HOUSE
January 22: Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston has succeeded Lady Angela Oswald as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Memorial service
Mr E. Crankshaw
A memorial service for Mr Edward Crankshaw was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street, Canon John Oates officiated and Mr Alan Maclean read the lesson...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr I. C. H. McWhirter and Miss C. L. H. Gledhill
The engagement is announced between the eldest son of the late A. Ross McWhirter and Mrs Rosemary McWhirter of Village Road, Enfield, Middlesex...

Dinner

HM Government
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host last night at dinner at 6 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh...

Reception

Byron Society
The Byron Society held a reception yesterday evening at Brown's Hotel. A lecture was given afterwards by Mr Michael Foot...

Luncheon

Gloves' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayores were presented with gloves by the Master of the Gloves' Company, Mr Hans Stephen Kirsh, at a luncheon held yesterday at Grocers' Hall.

Marriages

Mr J. D. Breenley and Miss J. M. Porter
The marriage took place at St George's Church, Jamaica, on Saturday, January 12, between Mr David Breenley and Miss Judith Porter.

Peer poster: Fredda Brilliant with her bronze of Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, the former Lord Chancellor, which has been rejected by the House of Lords because the life peer is still alive. Only busts of the dead are exhibited, say the authorities. Now the sculptress is to sell the bust.

Cranwell graduations

Air Vice-Marshal J. D. Sportswood, Director-General of Training, was the reviewing officer when 129 officers of No 81 initial officer training course graduated from the Royal Air Force Cranwell School last week...

University news

Oxford
Schuyler Phelps, MA, (Edinburgh), MA, DPhil, university lecturer in ethnology, Assistant Curator of the Pitt Rivers Museum and fellow of Linacre College, has been appointed Curator of the museum from October 1.

PROF YUSUFU LULE
Former President of Uganda

Professor Yusufu Lule, who ruled Uganda for 68 days as President after the fall of Idi Amin in 1979, died in a London hospital on January 21. He was based in Accra, Ghana. In 1977 he retired to live in London. He was summoned back into the public eye, however, in 1979 when border fighting on the Tanzanian-Uganda border led to a full-scale invasion by Tanzanian forces...

SIR ROBERT TAYLOR

Sir Robert Taylor, CBE, who died on January 21 at the age of 72, had a distinguished career as a colonial administrator in Africa, the post-war era and later as an industrialist and banker. Until retiring in 1983 he served for nine years as senior deputy chairman of Standard Chartered Bank. He also chaired the board of the large industrial holding company Thomas Tilling, from 1976 until it was taken over in 1983.

THE EARL OF LYTTON

The Earl of Lytton, OBE 4th Earl, died on January 18 at the age of 84. Noel Anthony Scaven Lytton was born on April 7, 1900, the son of the 3rd Earl of Lytton, grandson of Wilfrid Scaven Blunt, great grandson of Edward Bulwer-Lytton and a descendant of Byron.

Law Report January 23 1985

Judicial concern over appeal removal
Poulter (Inspector of Taxes) v Gaydon Processes Ltd
Before Mr Justice Walton (Judgment delivered January 18)
Temporary Employment Subsidy paid to a footwear manufacturing company under the provisions of the Employment Subsidies Act 1978 fell to be taken into account in computing the profits and losses of that company's trade for corporation tax purposes.

Science report

Jodrell Bank tunes in for the cosmic whisper
By Pearce Wright, Science Editor
Preparations are underway to tune in next month to the so-called cosmic whisper of the universe, using the radio telescopes at Manchester University's Jodrell Bank observatory.

Youngest chief rabbi

Rabbi Ephraim Murvis, aged 28, has been appointed Chief Rabbi of the British Jewish community.

Organ prizes

The Royal College of Organists has awarded the following associate-ships:

Prof Robert Fitzgerald

Robert Fitzgerald, Emeritus Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory at Harvard, and well known for his translations of Homer and other Greek classical writers, died in Hamden, Connecticut, on January 16 at the age of 74.

Changing order of list

Regina v Reading
The need for counsel engaged elsewhere who sought to be excused attendance in the listed order in the Court of Appeal to ascertain the presiding judge's wishes was stated by Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Sir John Thompson on the Court of Appeal on January 22.

Correction

In Regina v Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte B (The Times January 22) Mr John Lyons, instructed by Ogden Lyles & Fox, Knaresborough, appeared for the proposed adopters.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Where have the British', 'Lagos call for Open price', and 'By Our Energy Correspondent'.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Central bankers flex their market muscles

European central banks bared their chests in the foreign exchange markets with a discreetly publicised display of concerted intervention to dampen the dollar yesterday.

The markets have been nervous of pushing the dollar up since last week's Group of 5 meeting re-affirmed their commitment to concerted action when needed.

In contrast to last September when the German central bank caused pandemonium with a hefty onslaught which knocked 12 pfennigs off the dollar in a matter of hours, yesterday's action was more subtle.

Yesterday's action has given the central bankers some psychological edge over the currency markets but it remains to be seen how long that lasts.

The upward revision of US growth figures was accompanied by sombre projections of higher interest rates if nothing happens to the budget deficit.

For those who hope Britain can avoid going along with the US, there is not much encouragement on interest rates to be gleaned from the public expenditure White Paper.

This is one of the sums the Treasury got wrong last spring, an error for which it is now, presumably, trying to compensate heavily.

But yesterday's White Paper extended the gloom into later years. In 1986-87, the Treasury expects debt interest to be a full £2 billion higher than it was forecasting last spring.

Where have all the British gone?

Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hong Kong who played so vital a part in the acclaimed Sino-British agreement on the Crown Colony's future after 1997, is a man with his hand firmly on Hong Kong's pulse.

Lagos calls for Opec price cut

By Our Energy Correspondent

Nigeria, which is currently out of step with its fellow members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on prices and production, suggested that a cut in the benchmark price should be made at the forthcoming OPEC ministerial meeting in Geneva.

Professor Tam David-West, the Nigerian oil minister who has been working this week in Saudi Arabia with Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani on a review of the Opec price differential formula, said yesterday that Opec should either increase the price of its heavy crudes or cut its present \$29-a-barrel market price.

Nigeria is presently selling its light crude at below the market price in competition with Britain and Norway who produce crudes of a similar quality.

The light crude producers within Opec have been arguing that the differential between their prices and that now being charged for the best-selling heavier crudes is too wide and is encouraging consumers to increasingly buy on the spot markets rather than on contract terms.

At its last meeting Opec increased the price of heavy crudes by 50 cents a barrel and cut the price of the very light crudes by 25 cents.

He said yesterday that "no-table progress" had been made and that an agreement on a new differential price structure was likely soon.

British business community is noticeably failing to take the opportunities presented by a booming Hong Kong and its now much-enhanced position as the gateway to China.

"Confidence that an acceptable settlement would be achieved was always strong among a number of foreign businessmen," said Sir Edward. Americans invested strongly in the electronics industry there in the past three years and now account for four-fifths of foreign investment in that industry.

While the Americans have made their push into electronics, Japanese interest centred on finance, accounting for 10 of the 14 overseas banks licensed in the past two years. Japanese construction companies, it might be added, have been tendering highly competitively of late to gain a foothold for work in China, which is already, after the US, Hong Kong's second - largest trading partner - and another big investor.

But what of the British? More than 50 British companies manufacture in Hong Kong with an investment of around £88 million. "But this investment pales in comparison with that of the US, China and Japan," Sir Edward said. "British investment represented less than 7 per cent of total overseas investment in Hong Kong's industry, and Britain provided only 4 per cent of the colony's imports," he said. "This low level of UK involvement is difficult to explain."

There is no apparent reason why British companies should be at a disadvantage, as the few like GEC have demonstrated. As Sir Edward knows well - since his fluent Mandarin speaking in negotiation helped to create it - "there is now a fund of goodwill towards the United Kingdom in China and the region generally."

Part of the answer may lie in the enduring colonial mentality. Too many still see an image of Hong Kong as a few rich, often of British origins, who may be sold luxury goods and supplies and the teeming masses who provide cheap labour but do not have any money. The reality of an important, fast-growing and increasingly affluent economy simply has not come.

This image is reinforced by the conviction that the great hongs of British origin know what it is all about and they have been busy diversifying out of Hong Kong or selling to the locals. Jardine changed its residence to Bermuda and the Hongkong Bank was anxious to buy the Royal Bank of Scotland.

In one of those ironies that seem to dog attempts to step up British interest in Hong Kong, Sir Edward's speech coincided with news of another big sale by Jardine's debt-ridden property associate, Hongkong Land. In a \$330 million deal, Hongkong Land has sold its 34 per cent stake in Hongkong Electric to Li Ka-Shing's Hutchison Whampoa group. Mr Li, it may be remembered, attempted a near-takeover of Jardine with Sir Yuekong Pao when most concerned were in a delegation to London, spreading the same message as Sir Edward a couple of years ago.

It is true that Mr Li is perhaps more closely linked to China than any other leading Hong Kong businessman. But the deal, struck at a £25 million loss to Hongkong Land, was simply another attempt to cut its £1.5 billion debt mountain. The old British hongs may be losing out, but that should not cloud the new image of Hong Kong as a sophisticated market for technology.

One-class plan for LWT

By Alison Eadie

Voting and non-voting shareholders in LWT, the holding company for London Weekend Television, are being asked to approve proposals for the enfranchisement of the 16 million "A" ordinary non-voting shares at an extraordinary general meeting on February 15.

The proposals, which are recommended by the company's adviser, Samuel Montagu, and its brokers, Cazenove, have resulted from discussions this week between representatives of both classes of shareholder. The intention is understood to have given the nod to the proposals.

If approved, the enfranchisement will create a single class of voting equity. The 60,000 voting shares will be compensated by the issue of five new shares for each old one held.

The additional shares represent 1.79 per cent of the enlarged equity. Both classes of shareholder must approve with a 75 per cent majority for the scheme to go ahead.

The proposals have been in the pipeline for at least 18 months. Agreement in principle was reached with the Independent Broadcasting Authority in February 1984 and discussions have been going on since with both classes of shareholder.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES, INTEREST RATES. Includes data for FT Ind Ord, Nikkei Dow, Hong Kong, etc.

US growth of 6.8% is fastest rate for over 30 years

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US economy, buoyed by an unexpected surge of consumer spending in the final quarter, grew last year at its fastest pace for three decades with strong growth of 6.8 per cent, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

Revised official figures, showing growth of 3.9 per cent in the fourth quarter, confirmed the remarks of a jubilant President Reagan who told guests at several of the nine inaugural balls he attended on Monday that America was heading for a "new beginning".

Mr Reagan, referring to the business statistics, said: "I am not at liberty to tell you what they will say, but one will be the best since 1951 and the other will be the best since 1967."

The official figures confirm that the 6.8 per cent rise in gross national product was the best since 1951 and that the inflation rate, measured by the consumer price index, remained low at 3.7 per cent in 1984, the smallest increase since 1967.

Rumours abounded yesterday that Wall Street, which had a near record advance of 34 points on Monday, had advanced knowledge of the figures, but there was no evidence to support the claim. Markets remained active yesterday and more records were predicted.

Analysts said growth in the fourth quarter, after a sharp economic slowdown in the third quarter, confounded economists who have been at odds over the future of growth.

Some, citing record budgets and trade deficits, have warned of a "boom-bust" cycle in which the economy will experience several quarters of deficit-driven growth before contracting sharply when interest rates rise again and investor confidence is shaken.

Others, including Mr Alan Sinai, of Salomon Lehman American Express, predict a sustainable growth this year of between 4 per cent and 5 per cent. "What is emerging is a pattern of stronger-than-expected growth and less than expected inflation," Mr Sinai said.

But Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the US Commerce Secretary, said at a press conference yesterday that the economy will be hit by another rise in interest rates this year if the record federal budget deficit is not reduced.

Meanwhile, the soaring dollar is starting to worry many Americans in government and industry as the impact of its formidable export bites deeply into exports and upsets relations with the United States' principal allies.

Even though the dollar has been surging since President Reagan took office in 1981, this concern has been slow to emerge. And dealers still report a seemingly insatiable foreign appetite for US financial assets.

There are few signs that the average American, who does not work for an export industry and whose livelihood is not threatened by cheap foreign imports, cares at all.

In many parts of the industrial and farmbelt Midwest, however, the powerful dollar has begun to steal jobs and depress prices.

Go-ahead for Humble Grove oilfield

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The development of the Humble Grove oil field, five miles outside Basingstoke, has been approved by the Government and the first oil is likely to flow early next year.

The oilfield will be Britain's second largest, on shore, after BP's Wytch Farm field in Dorset, and will be the 12th onshore field in this country to come into production.

The field, operated by a consortium headed by Carless, Capel & Leonard - the company which recently unsuccessfully bid £100 million for Premier Consolidated Oilfields - will initially produce 2,500 barrels a day. The oil is comparable in quality to that now being produced by BP from its giant Forties field in the North Sea.

The Department of Energy yesterday approved Carless's development plan. Planning permission for the field was granted six months ago by Hampshire County Council and civil engineering work will start shortly.

A gathering terminal will be built and the oil will be pumped into road or rail tankers at a delivery terminal to be built between the A31 and the Alton to London railway line.

A total investment of round £25 million will be required to bring 11 wells into production. Mr John Leonard, chairman, said yesterday and output could increase to equal that of Wytch Farm, which is now producing 4,000 barrels a day.

Carless has a 7.5 per cent stake in Wytch Farm and has announced oil discoveries at its Hornedean exploration site in Hampshire, which could ultimately be larger than the Humble Grove field. Appraisal drilling is taking place.

The Department of Energy, which will announce today the successful bids for the blocks being auctioned as part of the ninth round of offshore oil licensing, is due to launch the first round of blocks available for oil exploration onshore under the new rules governing onshore exploration. Details of the blocks available are likely to be revealed in two weeks.

Occidental Petroleum Corporation said oil reserves in the North Sea Piper field in the British sector block 15/17 have been increased by 53 million barrels after an independent assessment. Total reserves now stand at 890 million barrels, of which 620 million had already been produced by the end of 1984.

British Land has launched a £17 million bid for 51 per cent of Stylo, the Leeds shoe company controlled by the Ziff family. It is the first step in what would be an attempt to obtain control of Stylo, something which the markets has long been expecting, but which Mr Arnold Ziff, Stylo's chairman has resisted.

British Land is offering a share swap or cash for 9 million ordinary shares in a tender offer, in Stylo knowing that even if he receives acceptances for 8 million shares he will still only end up with 29.9 per cent of the voting rights.

The voting structure at Stylo gives management shareholders 43.8 per cent of the votes and the Ziff family manages to keep tight rein on the company by refusing to sell its management shares.

Mr John Riblat, British Land's chairman, says that ordinary shareholders will be tempted by the 200p swap of British Land shares for their stake or 8p in cash. The attraction for British Land's point of view must be the potential of Stylo's retail property portfolio.

British Land's US properties are showing results. The company has let 54,327 sq ft in its office refurbishment at 90 Broad Street Manhattan.

Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company has taken the special one sixth of the total, at a rent of about \$1.5 million (£1.33 million) a year.

British Land acquired the building in 1982 and has bought a \$33 million New York office building in Manhattan from Leucadia, the US insurance group. Jones Lang Wootton acted on British Land in the Broad Street letting and Williams Real Estate for Manufacturers.

BP setback signals Selstrust liquidation

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

Selstrust, the Australian mining company 75 per cent controlled by British Petroleum, is likely to go into voluntary liquidation after minority shareholders yesterday rejected BP's proposed re-organization of the company.

The rejection is a setback for BP's plans to extricate itself from the Selstrust imbroglio. Australian stockbrokers and shareholders challenged BP's estimates of Selstrust's worth and future, amid accusations of high-handedness by a foreign company.

Selstrust's main assets are 60 per cent of the Agnew nickel mine in Western Australia, 5 per cent of the production from the big Mt Newman iron mine, and 41.5 per cent of the promising 13mora gold prospect in New South Wales.

The core of Selstrust derived from the old Selection Trust mining finance house which BP bought for £428 million in 1980 when oil companies believed that diversification into kinds of minerals was the way forward.

But the dream turned sour. BP Minerals, which swallowed up Selection Trust, last year incurred an operating loss of £3 million. Selstrust itself has lost money for three years and now has debts of \$114 million.

Of those borrowings, £80 million came from BP, whose chairman is Peter Walters. It was BP's threat to call in its loans if voluntary liquidation was not recommended by the Selstrust board which precipitated the crisis.

BP offered the minority shareholders a new company, called Paragon into which various assets including exploration rights in the Temora belt would be injected.

Martin, are staying in the new company. This month, Associated Dairies announced that Wades had slipped from a £839,000 profit to a loss of £390,000. But Mr Hinchcliffe predicted sales of more than £50 million this year and a return to profit.

The new owners were advised by Citicorp Venture Capital and National Commercial and Glyn's. Williams & Glyn's Bank has provided banking facilities.

Ritblat bids £17m for Stylo stake

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

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British Land acquired the building in 1982 and has bought a \$33 million New York office building in Manhattan from Leucadia, the US insurance group. Jones Lang Wootton acted on British Land in the Broad Street letting and Williams Real Estate for Manufacturers.

British Land's US properties are showing results. The company has let 54,327 sq ft in its office refurbishment at 90 Broad Street Manhattan.

Option deal killed off at Dunlop

By Ian Griffiths

Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of Dunlop Holdings, and his two key executives, Mr Robin Biggam and Mr Roger Holmes have abandoned permanently their lucrative share option schemes after a meeting yesterday with the Dunlop Shareholders Association.

Under the scheme Sir Michael would have built a notional £1.3 million profit. However, the terms offered to Sir Michael and his colleagues by the company's bankers, attracted widespread criticism and after the £33 million bid for Dunlop by BTR last week the options were temporarily shelved.

After yesterday's meeting with the association Dunlop made it clear that the old scheme was dead and any new share options offered to the directors would be on different terms.

The Dunlop board is keen to enlist the support of the shareholders in its fight to stave off BTR's bid.

Professor Robert Pritchard, spokesman for the association, said: "We now see eye to eye on all issues of substance and the board will ensure that shareholders who wish to stay with Dunlop and participate in its recovery can do so without dilution of their stakes."

It is understood that one of the means that will be used to prevent dilution is for the company's banks to offer a larger portion of the ordinary shares which they will obtain in Dunlop under the proposed reconstruction.

Under the present terms the banks have agreed to make an open offer of half the 30 per cent stake in Dunlop's ordinary shares they would hold. If existing shareholders took up his offer in full and took up all their rights they would see only a 37 per cent dilution of their investment.

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IN BRIEF

Share values rise £4.1 bn

Shares were strong again yesterday, with, according to Datastream calculations, nearly £4,100 million added to stock market's values.

The FT 30 share index extended its gain over the 1,000 points mark, first topped last Friday, raising 20.6 points mark, first topped last Friday, raising 20.6 points to 1,024.5 points, a new peak.

The more broadly based FT SE share index was also at a record high, crossing the 1,300 points level for the first time at 1,305.7 points, up 26.7 points.

Heavy American buying which prompted some British institutional investors to enter the market was the main factor behind the surge.

But the market drew strength from the drift back to work in the pits and hopes that interest rates, after their recent sharp increase, will soon start to fall.

Market report, page 22

Profits slip

Mercantile House, the financial services group, suffered a £3 million fall in pretax profits to £27.5 million during the six months to the end of the year.

Earnings per share slipped from 21.5p to 19.0p, but the dividend was raised by 0.25p to 4p.

Tempus, page 22

£2.1m revenue

Transcontinental Services, the investment group which concentrates on special situations, produced revenue before tax of £2.1 million in the six months to September 30.

Tempus, page 22

Hotels improve

The hotel group Norfolk Capital raised pretax profits from £55,013 to £504,561 last year, lifting the dividend payout from 0.06p to 0.25p a share.

Tempus, page 22

Stone booms

Stone International, manufacturer of railway air conditioning equipment, raised profits before tax by 20 per cent to £3.2 million in the first half of this year - its first results since coming to market last October.

Tempus, page 22

Saatchi expands

The advertising agency Saatchi and Saatchi is to pay \$4 million (£3.57 million) for the New York direct marketing adviser Kleider Company.

The STOCKHOLDERS Investment Trust p.l.c. Highlights of the year ended 31st October 1984. Includes list of achievements and contact information for John Govett & Co. Limited.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You may always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various companies like Guinness (A), Bell (Arthur), Vaux, etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total.

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

Table listing various British funds with columns: Name, Price, Change, % P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table listing short-term investments with columns: Name, Price, Change, % P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing medium-term investments with columns: Name, Price, Change, % P/E.

UNDATED

Table listing undated investments with columns: Name, Price, Change, % P/E.

INDEX-LINKED

Table listing index-linked investments with columns: Name, Price, Change, % P/E.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities forge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Jan 14. Dealings End, Jan 25. Contango Day, Jan 28. Settlement Day, Feb 4. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Table with columns: 1984/85 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies like Guinness, Bell, Vaux, etc.

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THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 Claims required for +44 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

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LONDON FINANCIAL MARKET. Includes sections for OIL, OVERSEAS TRADERS, PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING, LEISURE, MINING, HOTELS AND CATERERS, INDUSTRIES A-D, DRAPERY AND STORES, CINEMAS AND TV, CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, FINANCE AND LAND, FOODS, BREWERIES, BANKS DISCOUNT HP, ELECTRICALS, MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT, TEXTILES, TOBACCO, and NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS.

WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including indices (Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.), high/low prices, and volume for various sectors like Energy, Chemicals, and Electronics.

Shares slip from peaks

New York (AP-DJ) - Shares were still broadly ahead early yesterday but they were slipping off their initial peaks. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 6.88 points at 1,267.45 in the late morning. Advancing issues were nine-to-five ahead of declines and trading was very heavy.

Mr Edward Nicossi, market analyst for Piper Jaffray & Hopwood, took a constructive view: "The secondary market is most interesting. There is broad-based interest showing as the institutions come into the market."

"We began recommending some of the secondary issues in December and have since added to it and the interest is strong from both the institutional and retail sectors."

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various metals (Gold, Silver, Copper, etc.) and agricultural products (Wheat, Soybeans, etc.).

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Peter Brown has been appointed to the board. Mr Douglas Muggersidge becomes deputy managing director. Mr Central & Sheerwood: Mr David N. James is now deputy chairman in addition to group managing director.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

A briefly unhappy spell for the pound in the early part of yesterday morning caused some sharp fluctuations in period rates. But calm was restored, rates returned to their overnight positions, or occasionally even a little lower for long-dated paper, and the rest of the session passed uneventfully.

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Table showing interest rates for various Euro-currency deposits (3 months, 6 months, 12 months) in different currencies.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Central bank intervention on foreign exchange markets halted another surge in the dollar yesterday. Initially, the US currency received strong support in anticipation of a bigger than expected rise in the GNP.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table of sterling spot and forward rates for various currencies and maturities.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for company name, price, and other financial metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts with columns for company name, price, and other financial metrics.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various metals and agricultural products.

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STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table of sterling spot and forward rates for various currencies.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts like Treasury Bonds, Eurodollars, etc.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table of Canadian stock prices for various companies like Alcan, Inco, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for company name, price, and other financial metrics.

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السؤال

How central banks can cut the dollar down to size

ECONOMIC COMMENTARY

By Tim Congdon

The dollar is over-bought, over-extended and over-estimated. Plausible explanations for its strength on the foreign exchange market as an international currency are increasingly out of balance with the United States' importance in the world economy.

The most obvious demonstration of the dollar's anomalous position is to compare the American share of world output and exports with the extent of international dollar usage. The US does in the world, accounting for more than 20 per cent of global output. But because it is so self-contained, its significance in terms of trade is less than in terms of production.

American exports are about 12 per cent of the world total and even this figure is flattered by the current dollar exchange rate. Realistically valued, American exports may be about 10 per cent of the world total. As a proportion of OECD exports, they are rather higher, but - as the table shows - Japanese exports are now almost as large.

By contrast, the dollar is dominant in international currency transactions and holdings. It represents over 80 per cent of the world's non-gold reserves and is by far the most widely-held offshore currency. In June last year, 77.6 per cent of Eurocurrency deposits were in dollars, more than eight times the amount in German marks.

The credibility gap, between a country generating 10 per cent of the world exports and a currency which constitutes 80 per cent of international money, is wide when presented so starkly. However, the current state of affairs would be viable if certain conditions were satisfied. Unfortunately, these conditions are satisfied less fully today than in the past.

The attractions of the dollar have traditionally been its reliability as a store of value

and the ease with which it can be bought and sold. At present its reputation as a store of value is still robust because it has been gaining ground on the foreign exchanges for four years and continues to yield a higher return than other leading currencies.

But the differential between yields in dollars and in marks or yen is also a sign of weakness. It is a measure of how much international investors must be paid to compensate them for the dollar's expected future depreciation. Until the late 1960s, American interest rates were nearly always beneath those in other countries, as there were no fears of systematic and sustained dollar declines.

Indeed, it can be argued that the health of the international financial system would be best served if the dollar fell quickly, sharply and soon. A large depreciation would help the US balance of payments and so create a base from which expectations of dollar stability might be restored.

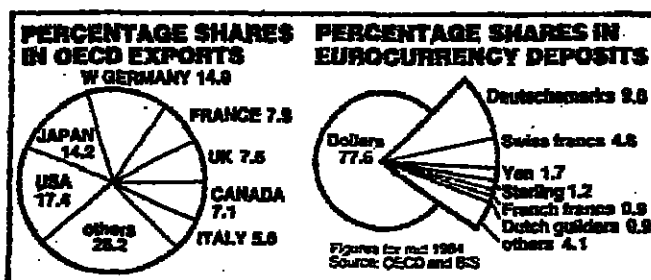
The recent meeting in Washington between the finance ministers of the five

leading industrial nations seems to have led to a re-assessment of official attitudes towards the dollar. Intervention on the foreign exchanges is now regarded as a worthwhile topic for discussion, although not necessarily as an immediate priority for action.

But how should intervention be organized? In Britain and perhaps in some other countries, central bank reluctance to intervene stems from worries that operations in the foreign exchange markets have repercussions on domestic money supply growth. Memories of some misguided intervention episodes in the late 1970s are deeply engrained at the Treasury.

It is well known that, when he was at the London Business School in 1977, Sir Terence Bures was critical of the decision to intervene to stop the pound rising. He thought, correctly, that it would cause an excessive increase in sterling M3. Now that he is the Government's chief economic adviser, he is probably just as sceptical about intervention.

Anxieties about the linkage between foreign exchange inter-



vention and domestic monetary conditions can be exaggerated. In present circumstances, Bank of England operations to support the pound would reduce sterling M3 and could be regarded as a benign mechanism for achieving monetary restraint without the need for large interest rate fluctuations.

But suppose that we accept, as one essential ingredient of an intervention agreement, that there be no effect on the domestic money supplies of the countries concerned. What can be done?

Money supply effects arise because dollars are sold in return for domestic currency. The extra domestic currency then becomes available to the

Government to finance its budget deficit without resort to the banking system. If it does not borrow from the banks, the money supply is unchanged. More concisely, if a government raises its dollar reserves it does not need to monetize its deficit.

To neutralize money supply effects, intervention has both to depress the dollar's value and leave unchanged the availability of sterling to the British Government, of marks to the German government and so on. On the face of it, these two requirements are incompatible.

But they are not. If the Bank of England sells \$1.2 million and buys £100 million sterling, it is under no compulsion to keep that sterling. The £100 million sterling could be sold to the Bundesbank, the Bank of Japan and the Swiss National Bank in return for a mix of marks, yen and Swiss francs.

At the end of the transactions, the Bank of England would have an unchanged quantity of sterling, fewer dollars and more of other hard currencies. Although there would be no impact on M3, sterling M3 or any other monetary aggregate, the dollar would have suffered selling pressure and the composition of Britain's foreign exchange reserves would have altered to something more in line with the relative trading importance of the important economies.

The Bundesbank, the Bank of Japan and the Swiss National Bank could conduct similar operations, selling dollars and buying other hard currencies with the domestic currency proceeds. The total non-gold reserves of these institutions and the Bank of England amount to almost \$90 billion. If they all agreed to reduce the proportion of dollars in their reserves by 20 per cent, net sales of the dollar would be \$18 billion.

Some \$18 billion of dollar selling might or might not depress the American currency's exchange rate. If it failed to have any immediate effect, not much harm would have been done and in the long run central banks' profits will benefit from their reserves being in currencies with better prospects than the dollar.

Foreign exchange operators sometimes sneer at central bank intervention because it is supposed to be ineffective. They might care to reflect that the Bundesbank bought most of its dollars for less than 2.5 marks each. With the exchange rate now at almost 3.2, and enormous interest payments in recent years as well, the Bundesbank has done very nicely, thank you, for the German people. Why should not other central banks imitate its example, with the deliberate intention of earning the best long-run return for their ultimate shareholders, the taxpayers of Britain, Japan and any other countries concerned?

The author is economics partner at the stockbroker L. Messel & Co.

Appendix II

Financial and other information on British Land

1. Responsibility
The Directors of British Land, whose names appear in paragraph 2 below, are the persons responsible for the information contained in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

2. Directors, Secretary and Registered Office
(a) Directors:
John Ritblat, F.S.V.A. (Chairman and Managing Director)
Stanley Berwin (Deputy Chairman)
David M. Cohen, F.C.A., F.C.C.A.
Cyril Mettles, F.C.A.
John H. Weston Smith, M.A., F.C.I.S.
David C. Berry, F.C.A.

(b) Secretary:
David Wilson, F.C.I.S.

(c) Registered Office:
10 Cornwall Terrace, Regent's Park, London NW1 4QP. Registered in England No. 621920.

3. Share Capital
(a) The authorised and issued share capital of British Land as it is now and as it will be assuming the issue of 12,840,903 New British Land shares, being the maximum number of shares to be issued at the Maximum Tender Price, is as follows:-

Authorized	Present		After full conversion of the Stock (see 2)(b)(i)		After Tender Offer	
	£	Shares	£	Shares	£	Shares
Ordinary shares of 25p each, fully paid	45,500,000	1,820,000	28,983,007	1,159,323	37,198,408	1,487,936
Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 2002	45,500,000	1,820,000	5,187	207	5,187	207
Ordinary shares of 25p each, 2/3p paid			26,958,284	1,078,333	37,204,595	1,488,143

(b) Since 31st March, 1984, there have been the following changes in British Land's issued and paid-up share capital:-

- On 11th September, 1984, 27,500 Ordinary shares, issued 2/3p paid under The British Land Company Limited Share Incentive Scheme (1970), were fully paid up following a call made by British Land.
- During the month of September 1984, holders of British Land's 12 per cent Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 2002 ("the Stock") holding in aggregate £1,125,890 nominal of the Stock, exercised rights to convert their holdings into British Land shares giving rise to the issue and allotment, as at 30th September, 1984, of 3,752,967 new fully paid Ordinary shares of 25p each of British Land, ranking *pari passu* in all respects with the existing fully paid Ordinary shares. £8,443,398 nominal of the Stock remains outstanding which is convertible into 26,144,460 new fully paid Ordinary shares of 25p each.
- Directors and employees hold options over 830,000 British Land shares under The British Land Company Plc 1984 Share Option Scheme. The amount payable for each such share in the event of the option being exercised is 75p. The options are exercisable between November 1985 and November 1989.
- Directors and employees hold options over 917,350 British Land shares under The British Land Company Plc 1984 Share Option Scheme. The amount payable for each such share in the event of the option being exercised is 140p. The options are exercisable between December 1987 and December 1991.
- Except as shown above, no capital of British Land or of its subsidiaries is under option, or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be put under option.

4. Directors' and Other Interests
(a) The Directors of British Land have the following beneficial interests (as defined by the Companies Act 1967 as amended) in the share and loan capital of British Land:-

	Ordinary shares				Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 2002	12 per cent
	Fully paid	2/3p paid	Under option (1984 Scheme)	Under option (1984 Scheme)		
John Ritblat	43,037	—	130,000	200,000	—	270,000
Stanley Berwin	4,200	—	—	—	—	—
David M. Cohen	38,418	30,000	100,000	98,825	—	9,000
Cyril Mettles	23,736	30,000	100,000	98,825	—	6,475
John H. Weston Smith	15,214	30,000	100,000	98,250	—	2,000
David C. Berry	14,240	25,000	100,000	98,250	—	3,000

In his capacity as first trustee, Mr. Cyril Mettles holds a non-beneficial interest of £1,100 in the 15 per cent First Mortgage Debenture Stock 1987.

(b) No person has notified British Land of any interest of 5 per cent or more in its issued share capital.

5. Balance Sheet
The following is a summary of the consolidated balance sheet of British Land and its subsidiaries at 31st March, 1984, based on the audited consolidated balance sheet at that date:-

	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets		
Properties of investment subsidiaries	259,199	
Industrial plant and vehicles	3,101	
Investments	83,171	
		345,475
Current assets		
Properties of trading subsidiaries	31,966	
Stocks	3,054	
Debtors	14,731	
Investments - securities	18,228	
Deposits and cash at bank	31,294	
	88,273	
	(42,826)	
Creditors due within one year		
Net current assets	56,447	
Creditors due after one year	(185,115)	
Net assets		236,807
Capital and reserves		
Called up share capital	25,014	
Share premium	30,572	
Capital reserves		
Unrealised	(4,689)	
Other revaluation	123,324	
Realised	32,835	
	151,470	
Revenue reserves	26,761	
	236,807	
Shareholders' funds		236,807

Notes:-
(i) Properties of investment subsidiaries are as follows:-

	£'000
Freehold	221,795
Long leasehold	36,187
Short leasehold	1,237
	259,199

(ii) Borrowings at 31st March, 1984 are included in creditors as follows:-

	£'000
Due within one year	18,703
Due after one year	165,115
	184,818

and are as follows:-

	£'000
Secured	111,058
Unsecured	73,760
	184,818

6. Profits and Dividends
The following is a summary of the consolidated profits and dividends of British Land for the five financial years ended 31st March, 1984, based on the audited consolidated accounts of the British Land group for those years:-

	Years ended 31st March,				1984
	1980	1981	1982	1983	
Profit before taxation	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Taxation (charge)/credit	3,913	4,782	6,325	7,713	9,023
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	2,398	1,565	(221)	(760)	(575)
Dividends	6,311	6,347	6,104	6,953	8,445
Retained profit for the year	(195)	(260)	(1520)	(1,300)	(2,080)
Earnings per share	6.11p	6.07p	5.58p	5.55p	6.36p
Dividends per share (net)	8.1p	8.9p	5.9p	6.7p	8.1p
	0.25p	0.25p	0.50p	1.25p	2.00p

7. Accounting Policies
The accounting policies of British Land as stated in the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1984 and applicable to the historical cost accounts summarised above, are as follows:-

Accounting basis
The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investment properties and certain investments.

Consolidation
The consolidated accounts include the accounts of the parent and all subsidiaries. Subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included for the appropriate periods.

Premiums on acquisitions of subsidiaries
Premiums on acquisitions of subsidiaries are attributed first to cost of properties; any excess of their market value is charged against capital reserves.

Accounting practices of subsidiaries
Accounting practices of subsidiaries which differ from the group's accounting policies are adjusted on consolidation.

Conversion of foreign currencies
All currencies are converted at year end rates and surpluses or deficits on exchange are placed to capital account.

Revaluation or disposal of properties and investments
Surpluses and deficits arising from the revaluation of properties and investments held as fixed assets are placed to unrealised capital account. On disposal these items are eliminated and surpluses and deficits by reference to cost are placed to realised capital account. Revaluations for the year, adjusted for disposals, are transferred to revaluation reserve.

Where properties held for investment are appropriated to or from trading stock, they are transferred at market value.

Deferred taxation
No provision is made for tax on capital gains which would arise if properties and investments owned by the group were to be realised at the amounts at which they are stated in the accounts. Provision is only made for deferred tax if the directors expect liabilities to arise in the foreseeable future.

Development and trading properties
Interest and other outgoings, less rental income attributable to properties in course of development, are deemed to be part of the development cost, provided the directors consider it prudent having regard to the development potential of the property.

The following criteria are applied:-
(a) A property ceases to be treated as a development either nine months after practical completion or when two-thirds of the anticipated gross income becomes receivable, whichever is the earlier.

(b) Interest is calculated by reference to specific borrowings where relevant and otherwise on the average rate applicable to short-term loans.

Properties and developments held by trading subsidiaries are stated in the group balance sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value and surpluses and deficits on sales are dealt with through revenue account.

Amortisation and depreciation
No amortisation or depreciation is provided in respect of freehold or long leasehold properties. The directors consider that this accounting policy results in the accounts showing a true and fair view.

Leaseholds of less than 50 years held by investment subsidiaries are written off on a straight line basis. Where they have been revalued, the additional amortisation is charged to unrealised capital account.

Industrial plant and vehicles are depreciated over their estimated lives, at rates varying between 5% and 25%.

Stock
Stock and work in progress is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value on a first in, first out basis and includes attributable labour and overheads.

8. Interim Statement
The following is a copy of the interim statement for the half-year to 30th September, 1984 issued on 18th December, 1984:-

	Half-year to 30th September		Year to 31st March 1984
	1984 (Unaudited)	1983	
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit and Loss Account			
Net revenue	7,211	6,559	13,250
Industrial profit	907	874	1,883
Property sales profit	1,249	1,041	2,707
Securities dealing, dividends and sundry income	1,182	1,505	4,125
Profit before interest and taxation	10,549	9,979	22,075
Interest	6,506	6,369	13,065
Profit before taxation	4,043	3,610	9,020
Taxation	1,182	473	575
Profit attributable to members	2,861	3,137	8,445
Dividend	809	520	2,080
Retained	2,052	2,617	6,365
Earnings per share	2.75p	3.0p	6.1p
Dividend per share	0.75p	0.5p	2.0p
Realised capital surplus	5,556	326	2,778

Notes:-
The interest charge is stated net of interest receivable and of £0.45m, deemed to be part of the development cost of properties. The corresponding development interest for the half-year to 30th September, 1983 and for the year to 31st March, 1984 was £0.12m. and £0.27m. respectively.

The interim statement does not incorporate any adjustments in the book values of investment properties held at 30th September, 1984 or for unrealised exchange movements.

Chairman's Review
The results for the half year ended 30th September, 1984 exclude any contribution from the major corporate acquisition of Rank City Wall or Gripperoles Holdings and their positive earnings will be reflected in the full year's figures. In the half year under review there was a 12% improvement in pretax profit from £3.6m. to £4m. Net rental income alone at £7.2m. for the half year exceeded the net cost of interest by £0.7m.

The industrial division, W. Crowther & Sons Plc, continued to improve its overall contribution. Gripperoles is meeting expectations at the time of its purchase for a net consideration of £5.5m.

In Australia the announced sale of the residual 24.5% equity interest in Postland Property Trust has been completed thus releasing net funds in excess of A\$16m.

In New York, the British Land of America joint redevelopment of the 24 storey Sofia Building facing the Lincoln Center is now well advanced with only 5 of the 93 apartments remaining unsold. Prior to its completion in the spring the entire office content of 66,000 sq. ft. has also been pre-sold and the total cost of development has already been more than covered.

British Land of America has financed the acquisition, on a limited partnership basis, of 315 Park Avenue South, New York, a 282,000 sq. ft. freehold building on which it has secured a mortgage of US\$ 38m. In addition, the vendor of the building has accepted US\$ 3m. of the consideration by way of 500,000 shares in British Land of America, its gross assets in America now approach US\$ 100m. making further progress since British Land's investment in this company which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

The office developments at Bond Street, London, W.1., St. Stephen's Green, Dublin and Moorfields, Liverpool amounting in total to some 140,000 sq. ft. are virtually complete and active letting campaigns are under way.

In November the Company made a further issue of publicly quoted 75m. 6 1/2% Swiss Franc Bonds due 15th January, 1985 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 10th January, 1985. Whilst this payment is partially intended to balance the disparity between the interim and final dividend payments it is the Board's intention to recommend a final dividend of not less than 8%.

Acquisitions since 31st March, 1984
(a) **Gripperoles Holdings p.l.c.**
British Land acquired Gripperoles Holdings p.l.c. ("Gripperoles") for a net consideration of some £9.5 million satisfied in cash and loan notes pursuant to an offer dated 31st August, 1984.

(b) **Rank City Wall Limited**
On 21st October, 1984 British Land acquired Rank City Wall Limited ("RCW") from The Rank Organisation Plc for a consideration of some £49 million paid in cash.

10. Pro-forma Statement of Consolidated Net Tangible Assets
The following pro-forma statement of consolidated net tangible assets prior to the Tender Offer, together with the notes set out below, is based on the audited consolidated balance sheet of the British Land group at 31st March, 1984 and has been adjusted to reflect:-

(i) the acquisition of the whole of the issued share capital of Gripperoles based on its audited consolidated balance sheet at 27th April, 1984;

(ii) the disposal of the British Land group's 24.5 per cent. holding in Postland Property Trust ("Postland"), based on its book value in British Land's audited consolidated balance sheet at 31st March, 1984; and

(iii) the acquisition of the whole of the issued share capital of RCW, based on an independent valuation of the RCW portfolio.

	As at 31st March, 1984	Acquisition of Gripperoles	Disposal of Postland	Acquisition of RCW	Pro-forma
	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
Properties Investments	289.3	1.6	(9.8)	93.5	384.4
Liquid resources:-	83.2	—	—	—	73.4
at 31st March, 1984	48.5	—	9.8	(8.0)	49.5
consideration	—	—	9.8	(9.0)	50.3
Other net assets/ (liabilities)	(2.3)	4.9	—	(5.0)	(2.4)
	429.7	6.5	—	79.5	515.7
Borrowings:-	(184.8)	—	—	—	(184.8)
at 31st March, 1984	—	(11.3)	—	(14.0)	(14.0)
consideration	(184.8)	(11.3)	—	(54.0)	(250.1)
Net tangible assets	244.9	(4.8)	—	25.5	265.6
Per share:-					
- basic	235p				255p
- fully diluted	167p				202p

Notes:-
(i) Liquid resources comprise securities, deposits and cash at bank.

(ii) The consolidated net tangible assets of the British Land group as at 31st March, 1984 have been stated after including the surplus over book value of £8.1 million arising on the Directors' reassessment at the date of the valuation of properties held in

TEMPUS

Slip at Mercantile shows pitfalls of specialization

Mercantile House's interim pretax profits, down £3 million to £27.5 million, show how difficult it is to build a financial conglomerate...

Stone International

Stone International is one of the few survivors of the acrimonious collapse of Stone-Platt, its debt-laden parent, in 1982.

months before the operations are fully integrated into the group and register any significant impact on the energy division's performance.

In the short term it will be the transportation division which continues to dominate the group's fortunes.

Norfolk Capital

Norfolk Capital's policy to go for quality instead of quantity is paying off. Pretax profits last year rose from £55,000 to just over £500,000, the best performance since 1979.

Transcontinental Services

Transcontinental Services is registered in the Dutch Antilles, run from New York and listed in London. It is an investment company not an investment trust.

The drop is largely attributable to the slower performance at Opco, the investment banking arm of Oppenheimer in New York.

Wholesale broking, however, generated higher profits, partly because the US government securities business was solid.

Mercantile also benefited in another way from the activity on foreign exchange markets. Money broking's contribution was markedly higher, and it was the old stalwart M. W. Marshall which brought home the bacon.

However, the third leg of Mercantile's strategy, fund management, bent a little under the strain and made smaller profits.

On this basis, Mercantile will be lucky to match last year's profits of £56 million. The question is whether 1984-85 is just a year in which the markets went the wrong way or the long-term strategy needs reassessment.

Much will depend on how successful Mr John Barkshire is in taking the group into the Far East. That long-term process deserves a long-term attitude to the shares.

The heavy expenditure on refurbishing its flagship Royal Court hotel in Sloane Square is justified by its five-fold improvement in operating profits since its reopening two years ago and it is now the power house of the group.

It has enabled the hotel to crank up its tariffs very substantially, so reducing the dependence on cheap coach tour bookings in favour of less price-sensitive individual and company visitors who now account for 70 per cent of the group's business against 58 per cent in 1983.

The programme has been costly, however, and is not over yet. The Norfolk Hotel in Kensington is going through a similar facelift at a cost of £3.2 million and will not reopen until late this year.

With London's three hotels accounting for 60 per cent of trading profits Norfolk Capital

would clearly like another but admits it is frightened off by some of the prerequisites.

In the meantime it is taking a close look at its collection of eight provincial hotels, now boosted by the acquisition of the Old Swan at Harrogate already producing "excellent results".

Occupancy rates are up in London, 88 per cent against 75 per cent and in the provinces from 51 per cent to 53 per cent.

There is clearly much potential and under the direction of Lady Joseph - Sir Maxwell Joseph's widow - the long overdue shake-up of the business is starting to reap benefits. Hence the recent bid interest. At 23p the shares offer solid if not spectacular growth.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Blue Circle and Sainsbury leap as Americans go shopping

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

City men grew excited yesterday as a wave of American buying spread along Throgmorton Street.

American investors were said to be picking up household names among British stocks, with Blue Circle Industries and Sainsbury high on the shopping lists.

But London market men were showing signs of confusion at the sudden apparently brisk trade in these two stocks.

The general belief in the market was that new American Depository Receipt issues had been made, facilitating US buying. In fact, ADRs have been available in both Blue Circle and Sainsbury since early November, through Morgan Guaranty, the New York investment bank.

It looks as though American investors have only recently become aware of the two shares on the ADR lists, and extended their "buy British" spree to them, taking the New York and London markets somewhat by surprise.

The companies themselves were taken aback by the reaction. At Blue Circle, Mr

Institutional investors competed with the American buyers for the available stock, and jobbers were once again caught on the hop by the strength of the demand. For once, the volume of business - 33,000 shares - was not out of line with price movements.

Those companies which are reckoned to be coming in dollar profits were also on the move again. Cookson Group jumped another 18p to 526p, marking a 40p rise in two days, and all because of the effect of the weak pound on its American earnings.

Laing & Cruckshank, the stockbroker, returns to the ranks of Metal Box supporters. "We have been buying the shares since the interim results two months ago," says Henry Poole, analyst at L & C. He adds: "I believe the price-earnings ratio for the shares could well move up to eight."

Christie's International, the auctioneer, rose 20p to 506p, giving the shares a two-day boom of 48p. The company is rapidly catching up with Sotheby's in the US, and is looking for an outstanding year there in 1985.

All the transatlantic favourites were strong. Imperial Chemical Industries bounded above the 800p mark for the first time, rising 22p to 43p, at one time. It closed at 82p.

Lucas Industries, an owner of a General Motors bid, advanced 9p to 273p. Other US favourites responded. There was keen demand for the likes of Becham Group and Distillers Co.

Besides the euphoria generated by American companies, equities were buoyed by hopes that interest rates will soon start to fall, the drift back to work in the pits and even the Government's public spending standstill plans.

At the close the FT 30 share index was an exuberant 20.6 points higher at a record 1,024.5 points. The FT-SE share index stood above 1,300 for the first time at 1,305.7 points, up 26.7 points. Both indices closed at their best levels for the day.

But, once again, Government stocks, missed the party. Conventional stocks closed with modest gains following the sell off of the long "trap". Index-linked gilts, on inflation worries, jumped by 1/2p.

Allied, which effectively launched the larger revolution in this country, has been criticised for allowing other brewing groups, particularly Bass, to overtake it. But it is fighting back by offering a wide portfolio of overseas brands.

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries climbed 3p to 146p, almost touching the peak they hit more than a decade ago when takeover rumours swirled. Greene, King and Sons moved forward on speculation of a Scottish bid.

British Aerospace flew 18p higher to 378p yesterday as L

Messel the stockbroker, put a "buy" tag on the shares. The firm thinks the Government's proposed sell-off of the whole of its 48 per cent stake in Bae

Evolve groups, the points and gives markets which earlier this week reported slippage in full year profits, recovered 6p to 119p, and Dowty Group regained 8p to 213p. The shares have been volatile since last week's 69 per cent jump in first half profits, achieved despite the damage being done to the electronics and mining group by the coal strike.

Newspaper shares were again exceptionally strong, fuelled still by the recent Associated Newspapers results and flights of fancy about the next series of bids and deals. In thin markets Associated jumped 8p to 720p, Daily Mail and General Trust 4p to 114p and the "A" shares advanced 9p to 119p.

Fleet Holdings, meanwhile, stretched to 267p and Trinity International, the old Liverpool Daily Post and Echo, gained 8p to 260p.

Shares in Hogg Robinson, the insurance broker and travel agency business, slipped 10p to 255p as Mills and Allen International sold its 7.8 per cent stake in the company. The sale ends long standing rumours that MAI might bid for HR.

MAT's stake was placed by the stockbroker Rowe & Pitman with about 20 City institutions at a discount to the market price. MAI had failed to dispose of its stake last September because the 5p discount it

offered on its 2.5 million shares was not big enough.

Yesterday's sale follows Aitken Hume's disposal of its Hogg Robinson holding two weeks ago and leaves the Kuwait Investment Office by far the largest share holder, with 11.3 per cent. Mr Christopher Price, chief executive of HR, commented: "Clearly we are still an attractive takeover proposition, but the KIO holding does not worry me. We have lived with it for several years now."

Acorn Computers, deep in the doldrums lately, responded to some optimistic noises from Mr Christopher Curry, managing director, with a 6p gain to 49p.

Mr Curry replied to what "seems like an orchestrated campaign in some sections of the press to run down the British computer industry in general and Acorn Computers in particular."

He said the company had enjoyed its best sales over Christmas. Total Acorn sales for 1984 were 420,000 units, more than double the previous year.

"We estimate our share of the home computer market to be around 25 per cent an increase of just over 10 per cent in just two months, after our products are at the top end of the market."

Godfrey Davis, the Ford main dealer which has spread into park homes and portable buildings under the stewardship of Mr Cecil Redfern, chairman, is believed to be the subject of a share stake build up. The shares, at 114p, are 1p off their year high.

the market I would call this a major setback - hardly the sign of imminent oblivion.

Acorn's shares were 193p at one time last year. A B Electronics, which has suffered alongside Acorn, rose 15p to 492p as Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, recommended A B shares. The broker reckons A B is relying less and less on orders from Acorn: last year 35 per cent of profits came from that source. A B has won an IBM contract which could add £2.5 million to profits, more than making up for any problems at Acorn.

Daup Holdings dipped 2p to 34p as the banking banks refused to embrace the BTR offer with open arms and British Telecom, after mauling 134p, ended unchanged at 132p.

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Rate. Includes ABN Bank (12%), Adam & Company (12%), Barclays (12%), BCCI (12%), Citibank Savings (10.75%), Consolidated Crds (12%), Continental Trust (12%), C. Hoare & Co (12%), Lloyds Bank (12%), Midland Bank (12%), Nat Westminster (12%), TSB (12%), Williams & Glyn's (12%), Citibank NA (12%).

Traded option highlights

Business was brisk on the London traded options market, with 16,144 contracts bought yesterday. The volume reflected the high turnover of shares on the main market and the FT-SE 100-share index contract was much in demand.

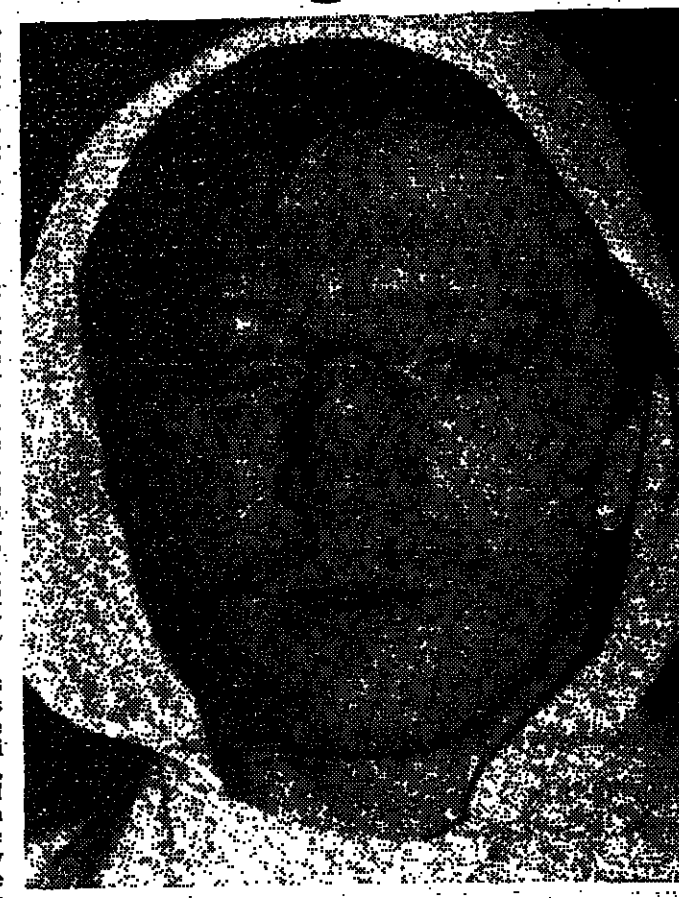
Investors bought 1,351 put options on the index and 922 call contracts. That suggests market-men now fancy the markets to be peaking and ready for a downturn.

Jaguar contracts stayed popular, with 1,264 calls and 182 puts traded. For British Telecom there were 1,354 calls and 997 puts, while British Petroleum stepped into active lists as 1,264 calls and just 45 puts were dealt in.

David Miller questions the medical grounds for banning boxing

Why no argument will silence the calling of the ring

When Bob Arum, the American promoter, commented on the hail of plastic lager bottles that greeted the end of the WBA welterweight contest in Birmingham, he remarked that there are always a few bad apples in a crowd. American fight rings are not always havens of sweetness and light.



Evidence of barbarity? Colin Jones after the Curry bout (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Perhaps Arum had in mind the story of the title bout at Madison Square Garden, when trouble was expected. Handing out press tickets beforehand, the promoter was simultaneously supplying the journalists with conspicuous hats. An English correspondent, known for his independence of mind declined the offer. "I think you'd be advised to wear one, sir," he was told. Why, he asked indignantly? "Well, it's like this," the man said. "When the fight ends and the trouble starts, and the cops come in with their truncheons, they like to know which heads not to hit."

Boxing regularly supplies its detractors and busy abolitionists with ammunition. No hyperbole is needed when we can see Ali reduced from panther to pathos, or Jake La Motta's frenzy laid bare by Robert De Niro in *Raging Bull*. Doubtless the bloodiest defeat in four rounds by Don Curry of Colin Jones, whose face had become as vrillion as his Welsh shorts, will be used as further evidence of barbarity. I will return to this in a moment: the violence of spectators and participants are somewhat separate issues.

There is probable insufficient psychological evidence readily available about the extent to which observing physically aggressive sport incites the viewer to emulate the spectacle, as occasionally happens in soccer, or alternatively provides a fantasy substitute, a catharsis. We dread being involved in an aeroplane or car crash, yet exhibit an involuntary interest in such disasters as they affect others. Boxing crowds are in fact predominantly well behaved, and the sport may serve more as a palliative of spectators' latent aggression than a corruption.

The issue is confused, as so often, by drink. In the £50 front row at the National Exhibition Centre, immediately behind the press ring-side seats, there was a spectrum of attire from dinner jacket to anorak, including a man whose shoes suggested he had travelled up the M5 from the valleys on foot. Significantly, under almost every seat

there were one or two six-packs of half-pint lager bottles, purchased after admission. The brief haul of bottles at the finish represented frustrated nationalism fortified by alcoholic confusion and the erroneous belief, shared by the fearful Jones, that sheer courage could somehow continue to survive Curry's analytically destructive fists.

The short answer, acknowledged by the progressive promoter, Frank Warren, is to serve the beer, profits from which keep down the price of tickets, in cups. "One bottle thrown is one too many," he says.

What the abolitionists tend to overlook is that Jones, for example, will now probably retire after only 30 fights, compared with, say, the 280 bouts of Ted "Kid" Lewis, world welterweight champion from 1915 to 1919, who nevertheless lived to be 74. It is untrue that most former fighters end up at the funny farm, as the pre-fight parade at Birmingham of former champions, still mentally agile enough to be able to calculate

their now not inconsiderable business income tax, amply demonstrated. However, the Winstone, Dick Richardson, Jim Watt and Henry Cooper.

The dozen or more MPs, such as Tom Pendery, who are former amateur boxers manage to find their way to work without a guide dog, as does my respected colleague, Srikanth Sen. Colin Moyrhan, Tory member for Lewisham East, Olympic coxswain and a member of the British Boxing Board of Control, refuses in the current Sports Council magazine, the latest challenge of the British Medical Association. He points out that between 1969 and 1981, 480 people died in sport in Britain, of whom only two were professional boxers and three amateurs.

Riding, rugby, skiing, mountaineering and sailing are all more dangerous, and those who claim boxing is excruciating in its objective of inflicting pain should watch some rugby. "Give blood - play rugby", the car stickers say. Parliament is unlikely to ban boxing, as

Sweden has done, because members recognize that British leads the way internationally in medical supervision and control, and that such a law would conflict with the concept of individual freedom. Eastern Europe and the Afro-Asian world, led by Nigeria, would oppose the abolition of Olympic boxing.

As Moyrhan says: "You have to admit boxing can be dangerous and I would not support it without the present medical control, and the important reduction of championships from 15 to 12 rounds. Every boxer has an annual examination, and is examined prior to and after a fight, as well. Every boxer who loses inside the distance is automatically suspended for 28 days - must then pass a full medical examination. The BMA made its decision after an emotive speech by Dr Butten, who had never seen a boxing match. Abolition would drive boxers abroad."

James Tye, director of the British Safety Council, campaigns against the sport, and cites the example of the popular Chris Fimagne, Olympic gold medal winner and European light-heavyweight champion, who is almost blind in one eye. Yet there exists a suspicion that Fimagne may have been less than attentive at the time to his own condition.

Ray Cline, secretary of the Board of Control, points out that Tye's five main objections against boxing on safety do not withstand scrutiny; that brain scans are being used; that referees are independently appointed; that doctors do stop fights (as last Saturday); that there are precautions following any knock out; that ring floors are padded.

Yet might the lamented Johnny Owen have lived had he not had to wait 20 minutes while unconscious in a Los Angeles dressing room before the ambulance arrived? In the world's harsh cities, such as Madrid, Mexico City, Chicago, Tokyo, Glasgow and Manila, not to say mining valleys, boxing offers young men an opportunity for self-discipline and dignity as well as expression of forces which must be controlled by well-meaning committees. There is no incompatibility between intelligence and boxing. Gene Tunney, socialist millionaire, once reprimanded Bernard Shaw on the text of a play.

SKIING

Finns lead way with two golds

Seafield, Austria (Agencies) - Kari Harkonen won the 15 kilometre cross-country race and the Finnish ski jumpers prevailed in the 90 metres team jumping event yesterday as Finland's first two gold medals in the Nordic world championships.

Harkonen skied and skated - the controversial skating step was named after his fellow Finn, Paul Siltonen - the best race of his career in the men's sprint event. The win ended a 15-year drought for Finland in men's individual world and Olympic cross-country skiing. Harkonen recorded 40min 42.7 sec, to beat Thomas Wassberg, of Sweden, by 13 seconds. The Finns struck again less than five hours later as Matti Nykanen, Jari Puikkonen, Tuomo Ylipii and Pentti Kokkonen won the team jump at nearby Innsbruck.

Austria were second, with East Germany third, the first medals for both countries.

15km CROSS-COUNTRY: Leading package: 1. Kari Harkonen (FIN), 40min 42.7sec; 2. Thomas Wassberg (SWE), 54.2; 3. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.2; 4. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 5. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 6. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 7. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 8. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 9. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 10. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 11. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 12. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 13. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 14. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 15. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 16. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 17. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 18. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 19. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 20. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 21. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 22. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 23. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 24. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 25. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 26. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 27. Matti Nykanen (FIN), 57.4; 28. Jari Puikkonen (FIN), 57.4; 29. Pentti Kokkonen (FIN), 57.4; 30. Tuomo Ylipii (FIN), 57.4; 31. 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CRICKET: LIMITED-OVER THINKING PUTS SPINNER TO PREMATURE FLIGHT

Selectors tell Pocock and French that they must leave party

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Bangalore
At much the same time as the England team for today's one-day international in Nagpur...

Border's century brushed aside

Canberra (Reuters) The Australian captain, Allan Border, stole the spotlight with a forceful 114 for the Prime Minister's XI...

The West Indians piled up 284 for eight in the first 50 overs. Nevertheless, Border raised hopes of an unexpected success for his team...

But when Border was bowled by Walsh, the Prime Minister's XI lost their momentum...

Lloyd received a standing ovation. He intends to return from international cricket at the end of the tour...

After the match, the Australian Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, presented the man of the match award to Border.

WEST INDIANS
C G Grenville & Marsh B O'Donnell 44
R D Payne & Carmichael 41
G M Ritchie & Garner B Bopst 38
I A Richards & O'Connell B Bennett 18
A Logan & French B Murray 10
D J G B Pinder 10
S A Bopst & Taylor B O'Donnell 10
J Garner & Marsh B Murray 10
W W Davies not out 8
Extras (lb wks, 50 ovs) 284
C A Walsh, did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-64, 2-74, 3-119, 4-142, 5-218, 6-247, 7-247, 8-273.

PRIME MINISTER'S XI
A M J Higgin & Logie B Walsh 22
G M Ritchie & Garner B Bopst 38
I A Richards & O'Connell B Bennett 18
S O'Donnell & Payne B Harper 12
P J Faulkner not out 11
M J Bennett not out 8
Extras (lb wks, 50 ovs) 289
R J McCarthy and I Carmichael did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-13, 3-83, 4-123, 5-134, 6-151, 7-255.

RACING: ANGELO SALVINI MAY MEET HIS MATCH AT NEWCASTLE

Abandoned Warrior to step up in class

By Mandarin
The return of Angelo Salvini, one of the leading novice hurdlers three seasons ago, is the most interesting feature of a disappointing card at Newcastle this afternoon.

Peter Eastbury's nine-year-old looked as if he could be making the top of the National Hunt calendar when he won the Philip Corney Saddle of Gold Find at Newbury in 1982...

Jackman, who ran so well when beaten a short head by talking at Kelso a fortnight ago, is named to concede 12lb and upwards against seven rivals in the Teal Novices Chase (2.30).

By New Brig out of a winning point-to-point mare, Jackman scored twice over three miles in the season and should have much stamina for his principled rival, On Leave, who disappointed when tried over fences last season...

Miss Eastbury won both divisions of the novice hurdle at Kelso two weeks ago and has leading contenders for the equivalent event in the Miss Golding and Miss Golding Handicaps (3.30).

Course specialists
JOCKEYS: B Bradley 14 winners from 61 rides, 23.0%; P Power 18 from 61, 16.7%; TRAINERS: M Easterby 25 winners from 129 runs, 20.0%; F Snow 13 from 78, 17.1%; P Fitzgerald 6 from 47, 12.8%.

Try To Stop Me stakes Triumph Hurdle claim

By John Karter
Backers emerged like hungry lions to join the bidding at Newcastle yesterday after their fortnight's hibernation. They must have wished they had stayed at home after three hot favourites fizzled...

crossed to success on his mother's Tullybuck in the first race. He was only just the winner for taking his ground after the last hurdle.

On the line in the Tattersalls Novices Chase. This victory completed a double for John Webber, who had won with Driven Snow. His wife Diana confirmed that their brilliant chasing prospect...

Newcastle holds the racing stage today after Wolverhampton and the other scheduled meetings, which were cancelled yesterday.

Sri Lanka aim for the final
Sydney (Reuters) - Sri Lanka, battling with Australia for the remaining place in the final of the World Series Cup, face today's day-night match against the host country in the Midland Oval in Adelaide.

Newcastle looks safe
had better take a look. After walking the course, the stewards decided that the ground was unfit for racing.

However, the picture is much brighter at Huntington, where the cancellation of the course is "extremely optimistic" that racing will take place.

GOING HEAVY
2.00 MOORHEN NOVICE HURDLE (Div 1: £752; 2m 4f) (16 runners)
1 00001 CARLISLE BAY (5) (J Taylor) G 6-12-0 Mr S Stoney
2 00011 CHIPCHASE (A Taylor) B Wilkinson 6-12-0 Mr S Stoney
3 00011 HURST RALLY (D A Brown) G 6-11-0 Mr P J Dun
4 00011 TOM TOGGER (W A Shepherson) W A Shepherson 5-11-0 Mr P J Dun
5 00011 JACK JESTER (M A Simpson) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
6 00011 MAM HOLIDAY (G Adams) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
7 00011 SLOUGH (M A Simpson) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
8 00011 MAM HOLIDAY (G Adams) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
9 00011 SHEPHERD DAVIS (G Adams) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
10 00011 PAIR'S FLUTTER (W Jolly) H 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
11 00011 BISHOP HURST (M Connolly) S Willes 4-10-7 Mr S Stoney
12 00011 BLYTHE KNIGHT (Meadows) S Willes 4-10-7 Mr S Stoney
13 00011 MAM HOLIDAY (G Adams) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
14 00011 JOCKEY (Bourne) J Hill 4-10-2 Mr S Stoney
15 00011 BOCKOCHER BOY (10-9-7) 14 to Game Roodie (11-7) at Catterick (2m h, 25lb, good to soft, Jan 11).

2.0 SWAN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (E720; 2m 12y) (10)
1 00001 HANZIE BRIG (D Pearson) G Harman 6-11-12 Mandy Harman 5
2 00001 EL DUBIA (B Howard) P Wignam 6-11-7 Mr H
3 00001 BOLAM GALL (B P Dutton) L 6-11-7 Mr P Farmer
4 00001 HURST RALLY (D A Brown) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
5 00001 HOT BETTY (T Wilson) R Thompson 5-11-2 Jayne Thompson 5
6 00001 HAZY DAY (Dunning) G Shepherson 5-11-1 Mr S Stoney
7 00001 EDWY (G Pinner) H 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
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3.0 CRESTED GREEB HURDLE (E1914; 3m) (7)
1 01104 ANGELO SALVINI (E Easterby) M Easterby 9-7-1 M T Elliott
2 01104 CHETEL (R Bennett) B 11-11 Mr P Farmer
3 01104 HURST RALLY (D A Brown) G 6-11-0 Mr S Stoney
4 01104 MISS GOLDING (E Easterby) M Easterby 9-7-1 M T Elliott
5 01104 MISS GOLDING (E Easterby) M Easterby 9-7-1 M T Elliott
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Newcastle selections
By Mandarin
1.30 The Builder. 2.0 Tumpy Lakes. 2.30 JOCKAMBEL (nap). 3.0 Abandoned Warrior. 3.30 Grinders. 4.0 Miss Golding.
By Michael Seely
1.30 Chief Jester. 2.30 JOCKAMBEL (nap). 3.0 Chetel.

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Connections, a 1980s consultancy for the 1980s recruitment market, is linked to a top-level management selection consultancy and has set secretaries in the £7,500/£12,000 bracket, even if the job they want is not described in this small sample.

PA to Small Company MD
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Mature (30 plus) poised senior secretary to assist-enthusiastic MD developing a financially strong, people-oriented young company which combines the highest professional standards and works with a pleasant, relaxed atmosphere. High level contacts; plenty of responsibility, even more opportunity to exert influence. Must be prepared to cover entire work spectrum and take even more responsibility in boss's absence. Ring Clara Ward, Ref C529

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Style, secretarial skills and professionalism are needed to organise this well established firm of financial consultants. Stratacising opportunity for candidates with distinct administrative ability. Ring Judy Hall, Ref C519

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Male or female candidates should ring us any weekday until 6.30 pm. We'll arrange for you to meet one of our experienced consultants at a time to suit you, to talk about your experience, your ambitions and our jobs

CONNECTIONS 13/14 Hanover Street, London W1R 9HG. Telephone: 01-493 5788

Only the best Secretaries are good enough

for the head office of Metropole Casinos in the heart of Mayfair.

We are an exciting, lively company in work for and are expanding fast. In this exciting atmosphere management of all levels need first rate secretarial support.

We are currently looking for secretaries experienced in providing the full range of office and secretarial services to key managers. High on the list of qualities are excellent typing, shorthand skills and a good working knowledge of new office technology, including experience on an IBM WP (Word Star).

For people with these qualities the salaries are excellent.

If you would like to be considered for a top secretarial job with Metropole, or if you are a junior looking for experience in a company like ours in London, write or telephone: Miss Kathie Mulvih, Metropole Group of Companies, 41 Upper Brook Street, London W1. Tel: 01-499 7602

Metropole Casinos



Executive Secretary

Data Connection is a worldwide leader in the development of complex computer software and as such can offer excellent opportunities and prospects. We are currently seeking a lively, intelligent Secretary to work for a group of our Senior Executives, and due to our expansion the successful applicant will be rewarded with high job involvement and an exciting career path.

Applicants must display excellent secretarial, administrative and communication skills and should be able to work on their own initiative. We are a friendly company, offering excellent terms and conditions to the right person.

Please apply in writing to:

Doreen Willis, DATA CONNECTION LIMITED, Ross House, Shirley Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 6SN

LAND & MARINE ENGINEERING LTD.

Land & Marine Engineering Ltd. is an international maritime civil engineering company involved in the construction and development of submarine pipelines, particularly related to the offshore oil and gas industry. The company invites applications for the position of

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

to provide the full range of secretarial duties which usually will include assisting in the opening of the new London office and the setting up of new working and administrative procedures to promote the company and its marketing policies.

Applicants aged over 25 should be self motivated and be able to work without supervision and have had some experience working as a secretary or personal assistant with an international company preferably in offshore oil and gas.

To apply, write giving brief details of career to date to:

The Personnel Manager, Land & Marine Engineering Ltd, Port Causeway, Bromborough, Wirral, Merseyside, L62 4TG.

Secretary/Personal Assistant

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION
France

A highly reputable private organisation, with interesting and wide-ranging activities throughout the world, is seeking a capable and efficient Secretary/Personal Assistant to a Senior Executive.

Situated within 40 minutes of the centre of Paris, this organisation, which employs a staff of one hundred people of various nationalities, offers a uniquely pleasant working environment and attractive benefits and conditions.

Candidates, aged 27 - 35, should be fluent in English with a good working knowledge of written and spoken French, and should have excellent shorthand and typing, as well as office organisation skills. Familiarity with a word processor would be an advantage. Above all, this unusual position requires discretion, intelligence, resourcefulness, as well as a bright disposition and an ability to work with others. It also demands a high degree of personal dedication, an ability to work against tight deadlines from time to time, and a willingness to travel abroad when required.

Please write, in confidence, to FORMES et IDEES, 1 bis rue de Paradis - 75018 PARIS - providing full details of your education, professional and linguistic skills and experience. Please enclose a recent photograph. All applications will be acknowledged and interviews will take place within the next few weeks in London.

Administration Assistant

Aged 40 plus £9,000 St. James's

for the Society of British Aerospace Companies which has represented the interests of the United Kingdom Aerospace Industry since 1918. The present job holder retires in October and a significant handover period is planned.

You will have a wide range of responsibilities including preparations for the AGM and committee meetings, pension scheme administration, arranging formal luncheons and dinners and assisting with the arrangements for The Farnborough Air Show. There will be significant liaison with internal and external contacts.

You are a good organizer, with relevant experience which may have been gained in a senior secretarial role. Your secretarial skills will be used sporadically, but must be exemplary. You will be dealing with highly confidential matters and must therefore be absolutely discreet.

An attractive benefits package includes pension scheme, BUPA, lunch vouchers and a season ticket scheme.

Please write - in confidence - with full career details (or telephone 01-730 0833 ext. 320 for further details and an application form) to Lesley Clifford net, A.20165.

This appointment is open to men and women.

HAY-MSL Selection and Advertising Limited, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AW.

Offices in Europe, the Americas, Africa, Australasia and Asia Pacific.



European Connection £11,000

Use your linguistic ability to help your high-flying boss establish the London branch of this prestigious European bank. As well as excellent secretarial and organisational skills, you will need real energy, enthusiasm and the desire to take responsibility at all levels. Fluency in German, French or Italian essential. Age: 25-35. Skills: 100/60.

Service with a Smile! £10,000

Our very special client with diverse interests in the Service and Leisure industries is searching for a very special PA. Excellent senior level experience is a must, but your talents will include the ability to get the most out of people and a high level of diplomacy. This is a real chance to make your mark in a new position and in a growing business. Age: 25-35. Skills: 110/60.

WP in Advertising £7,500

This well known West End Agency has a new position for a young, lively Assistant. You'll need to have the ability to eat up work on the word processor, a genuine willingness to help and commonsense. WP experience is a must. Age: 19-25. Skills: 60+ typing.

Television £6,000

This Advertising Agency in Covent Garden is looking for a bright college leaver to work in their fastest growing department - television. You will have the opportunity to learn about every aspect of work in one of London's most popular agencies. Age: 18+. Skills: 90/50.

HAZELL STATION ASSOCIATES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
8 Golden Square, London W1 01-438 6021

SECRETARY/PA

£6,100-£6,500 TAX FREE

The International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund, an Inter-Governmental Organisation, situated in SE1, is looking for a Secretary/Personal Assistant for its Finance Officer. The position will be filled as from 1 April 1985.

Apart from general secretarial duties, the person appointed will undertake book-keeping duties. Experience of book-keeping to trial balance stage will, therefore, be desirable. Experience in the use of IBM Displaywriter will also be an advantage, but training will be given if necessary. Complete proficiency in English is required. As the organisation has English and French as official languages, a working knowledge of French would be an asset. The post demands the ability to work under pressure.

The salary is net of UK income tax plus considerable benefits including 6 weeks' annual leave.

Please apply in writing with CV by 8th February to the:

INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND, 4 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7SR

THE BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY

Expansion has created 3 new posts at the Society's headquarters in London W1.

These are first class opportunities for career minded people with good educational backgrounds, secretarial experience and a real interest in the Computing Profession.

To apply you will need a flair for administration with the initiative and self reliance to play a part in the growth plans of the Society.

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This post is likely to suit someone seeking a move away from secretarial work to take on a new scheme being developed for the Computer Industry as a whole. A versatile ambitious person is needed to initiate what is likely to be a very fast growing operation.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

This post carries responsibility for the running of the Society's membership election procedures and the servicing of the Membership Committee. Knowledge of higher education or professional organisations will clearly be an advantage.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Finance/Records Department of the Society needs a person with accounting experience to take responsibility for the maintenance and control of the computerised subscription and accounting systems. Servicing the Finance Board will also be a function of this post.

Salaries will be negotiable up to £9,000.

For further details and application form write to:

Mrs L. F. MacGregor, Personnel Officer, The British Computer Society, 13, Mansfield Street, London W1M 0BP

URGENTLY REQUIRED

for a large Italian company

1. INTELLIGENT P.A./ADMINISTRATOR to assist Director. Knowledge of Italian and bookkeeping necessary. Preferred age 30-35 years. Salary £9,300 + bonus.

2. SECRETARY with shorthand/typing and telex experience, for Transport Manager. Knowledge of Italian preferred. Age: 20-25 years. Salary: £8,000 + bonus.

Please send C.V., specifying post to:

**Mr D. Panizzo
FIAT Spa
Knightsbridge
London SW7 1DE**

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE'S P.A.

£7,500 to £8,500

Recently expanding P.R. Consultancy requires two experienced P.A. Secretaries with excellent skills to assist on the customer side. You should enjoy a hectic environment, meeting clients and dealing with people at all levels. No a.s. 60 w.p. to type.

PUBLIC RELATIONS P.A.

to £10,000

P.A. in growing Public Relations Consultant on an international Management side of leading corporation. He seeks a good communicator to take both internal and external calls and to coordinate his decisions with his absence. Superior company benefits. Aged 25-30. 100/60.

BERKELEY APPOINTMENTS

SAVILE ROW W1
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IMG

The Mark McCormack Organisation & leading sports management Co.

has a vacancy for sec to young director of the consulting div., dealing with major corporations in developing and implementing sports sponsorship and promotional activities. Applicants should have a minimum of 1 year's work experience, good shorthand/typing skills, pleasant telephone manner, ability to work under pressure and want to work on own initiative. Knowledge of WP advantageous. Please call or send CV with salary requirements to:

**Sally Long,
58 Queen Anne Street,
W1M 0DX,
486 7171**

SEC/ADMIN

W1 c£8,500

We need a mature & lively personality aged 30+ to help us run our small but well established management services company situated close to Oxford Circus. Someone who is people orientated, enjoys being busy & can handle responsibility. Someone with a good basic education who has at least two years experience in a similar role, using his/her typing (60), shorthand (100) & shorthand skills equally effectively. To discuss this position in more detail Tel: Andrew Neethy-Smith on 01-629 8677.

SWISS RE (UK) UK SENIOR SECRETARY

Swiss Re (UK) has an opportunity for an experienced Secretary to work for the Assistant General Manager who heads the Life and Investment Division.

This position requires someone with a mature attitude to work and a friendly and helpful personality and experience in the Life Assurance industry would be an advantage. The person appointed will be well presented and have an attractive speaking voice as there will be contact with clients, staff and management at all levels. Duties will also include arranging meetings and managing a busy diary. Good audio typing is also essential. The successful applicant will be required to operate an IBM Displaywriter, for which training will be given if necessary.

Applicants should have a good academic education and preferably be aged 25+.

An attractive salary and good conditions of employment are offered, including a season ticket loan scheme, Luncheon Vouchers, non-contributory pension scheme, life assurance and after a qualifying period, a mortgage subsidy.

Applications in writing, with a full CV, should be sent to:

**Mrs J. T. Burgess
Swiss Re (UK)
188 Cannon Street
London EC4M 3HE**

★ WELCOME ★

Tonight we would like to invite you to come in and see us in our City office. We will be holding an open evening between 5.00 pm and 6.30 pm in order to meet secretaries who find it difficult to visit us during office hours. It will be a very informal evening and we are very easy to find - just 3 minutes from the Bank - take the Walkbrook exit, or 1 minute from Cannon Street Tube - take the Dowgate Hill exit.

**Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-236 3712**

Ask Alfred Marks

HAVE YOUR SKILLS BEEN APPRECIATED YET?

c£9,000

Large international SWI company, dealing with consumer goods, require a senior level Shorthand Secretary/PA with WP, to work for the Group Planning Manager.

For an immediate interview contact Alison Horrocks or Caroline Rogers on 01-631 5262

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Century House, 100 Oxford Street (1st floor), London W1 (opp Wardour St), LOOK FOR THE CLOCK!**

SECRETARY/AIR STEWARD/ESS

Age 22-35 for this demanding but very interesting position with an international group of companies. Although working mainly in their London office, there is a certain amount of flying involved on their executive aircraft. This position will only suit someone who is able to work flexible hours. It is essential that applicants have an excellent knowledge of French, a confident telephone manner together with suitable office & in-flight experience. A top salary & other benefits commensurate with the position are offered. Please send CV, recent passport photograph & names of 3 referees to

BOX 2276T THE TIMES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

We are one of the country's top advertising agencies and are looking for a capable and enthusiastic P.A./Secretary to work for one of our Group Executive Directors.

You'll need to be able to cope under pressure, have at least 100/60 wpm shorthand typing, take administration in your stride, have an outgoing personality and be able to work in a fast moving environment. In return we offer a salary of £10,000 p.a., season ticket loan, 4 weeks' holiday and the vibrant atmosphere of a successful advertising agency.

Interested? Then apply, in writing, including your C.V. to:-

Box 1226 W, The Times

SECRETARY to Managing Director

to £9,000

Our client, a major international insurance broker based in the City is looking for an experienced Secretary aged 23+ with good shorthand and administrative ability to provide a comprehensive service to a small, busy department.

Please apply in the first instance, quoting ref. 321, to Alison Scott, stating any companies to which your application may not be forwarded.

**WBH whites bull bolmes ltd.
PO Box 275, 61-65 St MARTIN'S, LONDON WC2N 4JF**

SECRETARY TO DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY COMPANY

Regrettably I am leaving my boss at the end of February & have to replace myself 2 weeks before I go. If you can cope with a time who needs things straight, has time tolerance & expects you to read his mind, then this is the job for you. Asst from excellent standard & typing skills, you must have a sense of humour, organising ability, a lively personality, head for figures & be prepared to become involved in the day-to-day business. Several years experience at this level is preferred. In return you will receive 20 days holiday plus statutory, rising to 26 days per annum. £1 per day L.V. & excellent working conditions. Salary according to experience. If you feel this is your contact:

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WATERS CITY OF LONDON PRAGMATICS etc
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KONRAD FURS

are expanding. We need the following high calibre staff to complement our existing happy & hard-working team.

1) Secretary/PA for our busy Managing Director. Salary commensurate with the high degree of efficiency, dedication and confidentiality that this position demands. This is a very interesting and rewarding opportunity for someone who needs to be involved.

2) Full-time Sales personnel who must be willing to work at least one Sunday in four (at double time). We are going to be open until 10.00pm, 6 nights per week, plus every Sunday during the Winter. Therefore there is an opening for the first time for a complete new set of staff to work from 6.00pm to 10.00pm five days a week and at least two Sundays a month from 11.00am to 5.30pm.

Please apply in writing (not typed) to Mr Konrad, Konrad Furs, 42 Sloane Street, SW1X 9LU. Accompanying CV may be typed.

An invitation...

To talk about joining the Alfred Marks team

Vacancies as branch office managers, temps, controllers and permanent consultants

TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, 23rd JANUARY AT THE SELFRIDGE HOTEL, 8-9 p.m.

Make the most of recruitment opportunities that exist with Alfred Marks. You'll hear about the company, see the staff, and meet the people who are looking for people who are confident, hard working and skilled at communicating with both professional applicants and clients. If you're interested in hearing more, then come and meet us for an informal chat over a glass of wine. We'll look forward to seeing you.

SELFRIDGE HOTEL, LONDON, W1 (at the back of Gail's Bar)

ALFRED MARKS

SECRETARY/PA

A well trained and efficient office worker with good w/h is required by a major City Law firm.

The person appointed will act as Secretary/PA to the Clerk of the Company and will need to have a good appearance and excellent telephone manner, able to organise a busy and tightly scheduled diary and to handle the correspondence of the Committee work would be an advantage.

Salary £8,500 with excellent benefits. BUPA, 4 weeks annual leave plus statutory holidays. Applicants in writing to The Clerk, 30, Thamesmeade Street, London, EC2M 8AT.

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£7500 PLUS
 Truly Excellent Benefits
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 Rapidly expanding, highly acclaimed small enterpriser in financial, leading to computer systems, seeks someone experienced and dedicated to co-ordinate the important development. Excellent typing essential plus the desire to enjoy every day in a busy, happy atmosphere. Top salary negotiable. Please write in confidence with CV to Box 282 Y, The Times.

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 Good organisational/administrative abilities are required to complement your above average SH/Audio and typing skills. Varied workload involves regular liaison with clients and companies. Age 28-40.
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CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TEL: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 9576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-638 9216.

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 Privately with WP experience but trained to be able to work for an expanding and busy consultancy in the computer industry. Excellent modern equipped with an ability to work well under pressure. **Phone: South Teversham 838 8187**

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 Young bright Secretary/Receptionist needed to help run a busy design consultancy. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, liaising with clients and the creative team. **Call Barbara Lewis on 724 0349 (No Agencies)**

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DEATHS

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As a direct result of the recent collapse of various travel organisations...

HUGE FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

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CHALET HOLIDAYS FROM £144 SELF CATERING FROM £99

Save up to £145! 26th January Half Board Budget Chalets from £144...

BLADON LINES

309 Brompton Road, London SW3 2DY Reservations: 01-785 2200

SKI CHALET PARTIES FROM £139

26 Jan. Chateaux, La Plagne, France. 26 Jan. Chateaux, Val d'Isere, France...

SKI SUPRETRAVEL

SKI SUPRETRAVEL 01-885 5060

SKI STANDEY - JAN 26

SKI STANDEY - JAN 26 Save a fortune! Cheap ski holidays...

SKI WHIZZ

SKI WHIZZ Fantastic bargains! Full inclusive chalet parties...

SKI BARGAINS

SKI BARGAINS Save £20 on January holidays! Full inclusive chalet parties...

SKI MACC

SKI MACC 01-351 5446

SKIING BARGAIN

SKIING BARGAIN Save £20 on January holidays! Full inclusive chalet parties...

SKI CLUB MARK WARNER

SKI CLUB MARK WARNER 01-938 1951

SKIING IN SWITZERLAND

SKIING IN SWITZERLAND. Luxury chalet accommodation, a board from £120...

SKIING IN SWITZERLAND

SKIING IN SWITZERLAND. Luxury chalet accommodation, a board from £120...

SKI BARGAINS

SKI BARGAINS Save £20 on January holidays! Full inclusive chalet parties...

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BEST SKI Tel: 01-341 7171

WINTER SPORTS

DAVID, good snow! Fly out from Heathrow...

UK HOLIDAYS

BEAUFORT Old Convalled Pub. Converted into 8 bedrooms...

RESISTA CARPETS

RESISTA CARPETS SALE SUPERB QUALITY CARPETS...

WIDELY TRAVELLED

WIDELY TRAVELLED engineer with 20 years experience...

25 YEAR OLD MAN

25 YEAR OLD MAN, BSC. In 1960, I was a young man...

AMERICAN PROF/RES

AMERICAN PROF/RES visits London regularly...

SHORT LETS

PHILCOX. 1st floor apartment, 1300 sq ft...

AUCTIONS & ANTIQUES

ANTIQUE MAPS 1800-1880. For sale by auction...

TIMESHARE

LEMOCK BARNBOCK LODGE. West 22, 21st St...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REJUVENATION For over 40 years NIA has cared for thousands of the elderly...

METHOD HOMES THE AGENTS FOR CHRYSLER

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB. A national club for the elderly...

WAIVE CURSE. A Spring Ritual. Please support generally by donating...

LEAVE THE GREY OF HOPE. It doesn't take long to lose a loved one...

PATERNOSTER-BARBER. On January 9th...

WANTED. A writer required to assist in producing...

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BIRTHS

BEALY. On the 21st of January at Wynton Hospital...

MARRIAGES

LONG HASLER. On 19th January 1985, in London...

DEATHS

ASPINALL. Pat on January 22nd at 84, Woodside...

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1
6.00 Ceefax. All News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Brough and Seena Scott. News from Debbie in London at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. Sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; Mike Smith with the new Top Twenty at 7.32. Plus a review of the morning newspapers and a 45-minute review on Gilly Love.

TV-am
6.15 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Sport at 6.50 and 8.20; exercises at 6.50 and 8.20; caring for clothes at 7.15; Popeye cartoon at 7.23; pop video at 7.54; video report at 7.59; advice on caring for houseplants at 8.05. The guest is Paula Yates.
ITV/LONDON
6.25 Thames news headlines 6.30 For Schools: understanding oneself. 8.47 Communicator. 10.04 The use of computers. 10.21 Play. The Rainbow. Coloured Disco Dance. by C. Taylor. 10.48 Coping with the realities of trying to find employment. 11.10 The use of wood. 11.22 The Bayeux Tapestry. 11.29 Living in Britain between the years 1902 and 1926.
12.00 Rod, Jane and Freddy with a musical story about The Wobblers. 12.10 Our Backyard. Laura disappears with a tabloid and charrs. 12.30 Mr and Mrs.
1.00 News at One. 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston. 1.30 A Country Practice.
1.30 Home Country Club. The road for egg 'n' vegetable morning.
2.30 On the Market. Susan Brookes and Trevor Hyatt with news of the best food buys at the moment. 3.00 Games. The afternoon's action includes a debate of the government's economic policies (continued on BBC2). 3.48 Regional news (not London).
5.50 Play School, presented by Kate Corbridge with guest, Ben Bazel. 4.10 The Puffin's New Adventures. 4.30 Jactanyon. Nerys Hughes with part two of Simon and the Witch. 4.45 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 Europe presented by Sarah Green and Paul McDowell. The stories behind the inventions of potato crisps, baked beans, the non-stick frying pan, the dishwasher and spaghetti (r).
5.30 The Railway Carriage Game. Light-hearted celebrity quiz presented by Lorraine Kelly and Stan Boardman. The guests this week are Janet Brown, Les Dennis, Dustin Goss and Barbara Windsor.
5.50 News with Nicholas Witchall and Jeremy Pazman.
6.30 London Plus. Presented by Sally Magnusson, Guy Michelmore and Bob Wellings.
6.55 Star Trek. Captain Kirk battles with invading aliens who demand the destruction of a civilization and of Dr Spock (r).
7.45 The Golden Oldie Picture Show presented by Dave Lee Travis. Sounds of the Sixties with Eighties video ideas to illustrate the songs' lyrics.
8.10 Dallas. Jamie has J.R. and Cliff Barnes in a bit of a tizzy with the sensitive and increasingly dominant she has stolen (Ceefax).
9.00 News with John Humphrys includes a report on the day's televised proceedings in the House of Lords.
9.40 Real Lives: Poisoned City - Bhopal. A documentary showing the aftermath of last month's Bhopal gas disaster.
10.25 Film: Don't Steal My Baby (1977) starring Linda Purl and Desi Arnaz Jr. A made-for-television drama about a young woman who falls for a college classmate unaware that she is pregnant. When she becomes pregnant by him he convinces her that the baby should be put up for adoption. It is then that she becomes involved in a fraudulent set-up. Directed by Robert Day.
12.50 Weather.



Linsey Beauchamp and Peter Davalle: BBC2, 9.00pm.

CHOICE
I really cannot understand the attitude of some of my fellow scribes who have found ANNA OF THE FIVE TOWNS (BBC2, 9.00pm) too slow both for its own good and for the viewer's comfort. You might just as well fault Concordo because it goes too fast, or Spring because it is too freshly great. Arnold Bennett did not hurry Anna. To have done so would have been to go against the whole grain of the story which is to do with the gradual process by which the oppressed can reverse the tide of tyranny. What is more serious: to worry about the leisurely unfolding of the tale is to fail utterly to appreciate what is strong in the book, and equally potent in the television serial: the role of environment in the emancipation of Anna, whether it is the economic straightjacket of the Porteries, or (as in tonight's episode) the liberating novelty of the brief holiday on the Isle of Man. Of the many features I

could praise in this most distinguished four-part adaptation (by John Harvey) of the Bennett novel, I have space only to mention Emrys James's Euphrates Tellwright (here there no limits to this actor's versatility), the camera-work of David Dochow and Paul Woolston (watch out tonight for the beach scenes, and the setting sun glimpsed through the boarding house window), and the musical score of Nigel Hess that presses cornet and cello into service in a way that I am positive Bennett himself would have applauded as a sympathetic understanding of the essential message of Anna of the Five Towns. Whether the decision to make the programme follow the other was fortuitous or deliberate, tonight's Open Space film COLD COMFORT (BBC2, 7.40pm), which

makes out a strong case for Government action to stop 50 million of our old folk dying from the cold, grows organically out of Tony Tjaly's film A WINTER'S DAY (BBC2, 7.05pm), which reminds us how we shivered in the grip of ice and snow on January 15th, 1962. In his preface to the Open Space film, Jack Jones, doughty champion of the old age pensioners, says he hopes it will lead to action to prevent 80,000 elderly people freezing to death every winter. It, as they say, one picture is worth a hundred words, than there are enough worrying images in this film to stir the most obtuse of Whitehall consciences. Do try and musical knowledge co-exist happily in Fritz Speigl's short illustrated talks, aptly entitled MUSIC SHOP: Judge for yourself (Radio 4, 11.48am).

Peter Davalle

BBC 2
8.00 Ceefax.
8.10 Daytime on Two: working with plastic materials. 8.30 Why things slide. 10.00 For the very young. 10.15 Maths: percentages. 10.38 Maths: geometry. 11.00 Words and pictures. 11.17 Music: percussion instruments.
11.39 The effect of music on film sequences. 12.03 Russians and the Russian language. 12.30 Maths: algebra. 12.55 Learning the English language by watching popular television programmes. 1.21 Spain. 1.39 Childhood in Scotland. 2.00 Life at the palace of Ramesses the Great. 3.18 A profile of the Great Lake City of Cleveland. 2.40 The life of an eskimo (Ceefax).
3.00 Ceefax.
3.45 The House of Lords. A continuation from BBC 1 of the debate in the House of Lords on the Government's economic policies.
7.05 A Winter's Day. Wednesday, January 13, 1963, in the middle of the coldest winter for five years. An impressionistic record of the time filmed in Braunton, the clifftop village. Fens, Lowestoft, North Wales and New Gardens (r).
7.40 Open Space: Cold Comfort. Jack Jones, the retired union leader, now a leading spokesman for the National Pensioners Convention, argues that death, through cold, of thousands of pensioners can be prevented (see Choice).
8.10 Bookmark, presented by Ian Hamilton. There are items on the University of Texas's collection of modern literary manuscripts in particular those of Shaw, Waugh and Paul Scott; an interview with the American writer, Alison Lurie and a review of her latest novel, Foreign Affairs; and on the love letters of Ezra Pound and his wife, Dorothy Shakerpear.
9.00 Anna of the Five Towns. Part three of the four-episode dramatization of Arnold Bennett's novel and Anne at last escapes the clutches of her tyrannical father and leaves the country for the first time in her life (Ceefax) (see Choice).
9.59 Cabaret. A new night club scene, held together tenuously by the hilarious Patrick Barlow, featuring the best original acts to emerge from the pub and club circuit as well as established stars. Among those featured tonight are Barbara Blyden, Robin Archer and Carriable. Comedy is provided by John Dowds; mime by the Theatre de Complicite; and alternative pop by Poolekakanaburger.
10.40 Newsnight. National and international news plus extended coverage of one of the main news stories of the day. Ends at 11.30.

CHANNEL 4
2.15 The Landlady's House. Glyn Mathias and Alan Stewart introduce the first transmission, other than the State Opening of Parliament, from the first television transmission of the Lord Chancellor's procession, Question Time and a debate on an opposition motion about the government's economic policies.
7.00 Channel Four News with Peter Sissons includes a report on the first television transmission of the everyday proceedings in the House of Lords.
7.50 Comment. The political situation this week is taken by Alan Watson, president of the Liberal Party.
8.00 The Dragon Has Two Tongues. Part three of the 13-episode history of Wales and the Welsh as seen through two vastly different pairs of eyes, covers the period from AD 800 to the coming of the Normans in 1066. The two presenters, Wynford Vaughan-Thomas and Professor Gwyn Ail Williams, uncharacteristically find common ground in their first common programme.
8.30 Diverse Reports: Daylight Upon Magic. Anna Coote examines the role of the Royal Family.
9.00 David Lynch at the National Film Theatre. The celebrated film director talks to City Limits journalist, Chris Auty, about his career and attitudes to film and also answers questions from the audience.
9.45 Film: Les Bons Debarres. Channel 4, 9.45pm. Charlotte Laurier. Les Bons Debarres. Channel 4, 9.45pm.

Radio 4
On long wave. I also on VHF stereo.
5.55 News. 1.00 News. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 8.55, 7.45 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday. 8.57 Weather. Trav.
9.00 News. 9.05 Midweek: Libby Purves and studio guests. 10.00 News. Gardeners' Question Time. 10.30 Morning Show. 10.45 Day Service (NEWS). 10.55 Day Service (NEWS). 11.00 Portrait of a Justified Sinner written and presented by Hugh Kingsley Porter. 11.48 Music Shop. First of six programmes in which Fritz Speigl rambles through the merrifield of the musical instrument world. He calls his first talk Prelude to Preluding. 12.00 News. You and Yours. Consumer affairs, with John Howard. 12.27 Father Brown Stories by G.K. Chesterton. Seven stories from the period John Skelton (r): The Hammer of God. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The Herald at One News. 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News. Woman's Hour. Today's edition includes an interview with the actress and singer Anna Carter. Plus the third instalment of The Balthus Collection, by Rumer Godden. Read by Fiona Matheson. 2.00 The Afternoon Play: Inside Out, by Jon Sturges. 11.55 Topical. 11.55-12.00 For Schools: 11.00 Singing Together (12, 11, 20 Junior Drama Workshop. 11.40-11.55 Topical. 11.55-12.00 For Schools: 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.05 Something to Think About. 2.15-2.30 The News in Your Mind. 2.45 News. 5.30-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: A Visit to France. 11.30-11.45 The News in Your Mind. 11.45-12.00 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting. 12.50 Calgary.
6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Pachelbel's (arranged Mils) Canon; Beethoven's Andante and Variations in G (Schubert); mandolin and Veyron-Lacroix.

Radio 3
6.00 The Six O'Clock News: Financial Review. 6.30 The Best of an One Ear. A second chance to hear again the sort of mistakes that can be made only on a live comedy show. 7.00 News. 7.15 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint (new series) Roger Cook, investigates listeners' complaints about anti-theft devices and other matters. 7.45 Rabbits. Hugh Sykes examines the lives of some 200-year-old people who rebelled against society's conventions (3). Marie Stoppes (r). 8.15 Last in the Back-Race (4): Fishing in the Boat - The Martyn Family of Hull. 8.45 No Sex Please, We're Lizards. The Judge examines the reasons for the different strategies of reproduction in animal life. 9.30 The Making of Harry Swan. Last of a four-part series in which the veteran broadcaster reflects on his career that is still going on after 90 years. (4): Creative Part. 9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes an item on the Folio Society which is the enemy of literature. 10.15 A Book at (3): Second from Sun. 10.25-10.30 The Book at (3): Second from Sun. 10.30-10.35 The World Tonight, including 11.00 Headlines. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.50 News. Weather. 12.30. VHF (available in England and Wales only). Radio 4 VHF as above, except 5.30-5.00am. 5.30-5.45 News. 5.45-6.00 For Schools: 11.00 Singing Together (12, 11, 20 Junior Drama Workshop. 11.40-11.55 Topical. 11.55-12.00 For Schools: 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.05 Something to Think About. 2.15-2.30 The News in Your Mind. 2.45 News. 5.30-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: A Visit to France. 11.30-11.45 The News in Your Mind. 11.45-12.00 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting. 12.50 Calgary.
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Radio 2
6.00 The Six O'Clock News: Financial Review. 6.30 The Best of an One Ear. A second chance to hear again the sort of mistakes that can be made only on a live comedy show. 7.00 News. 7.15 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint (new series) Roger Cook, investigates listeners' complaints about anti-theft devices and other matters. 7.45 Rabbits. Hugh Sykes examines the lives of some 200-year-old people who rebelled against society's conventions (3). Marie Stoppes (r). 8.15 Last in the Back-Race (4): Fishing in the Boat - The Martyn Family of Hull. 8.45 No Sex Please, We're Lizards. The Judge examines the reasons for the different strategies of reproduction in animal life. 9.30 The Making of Harry Swan. Last of a four-part series in which the veteran broadcaster reflects on his career that is still going on after 90 years. (4): Creative Part. 9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes an item on the Folio Society which is the enemy of literature. 10.15 A Book at (3): Second from Sun. 10.25-10.30 The Book at (3): Second from Sun. 10.30-10.35 The World Tonight, including 11.00 Headlines. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.50 News. Weather. 12.30. VHF (available in England and Wales only). Radio 4 VHF as above, except 5.30-5.00am. 5.30-5.45 News. 5.45-6.00 For Schools: 11.00 Singing Together (12, 11, 20 Junior Drama Workshop. 11.40-11.55 Topical. 11.55-12.00 For Schools: 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.05 Something to Think About. 2.15-2.30 The News in Your Mind. 2.45 News. 5.30-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: A Visit to France. 11.30-11.45 The News in Your Mind. 11.45-12.00 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting. 12.50 Calgary.
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Radio 1
On medium wave. I also VHF stereo. News on the half-hour (except 9.00am). Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30. 8.30am-9.00am: The Life of the Day. 9.00-9.15am: 9.00am News. 9.15-9.30am: 9.15am News. 9.30-9.45am: 9.30am News. 9.45-10.00am: 9.45am News. 10.00-10.15am: 10.00am News. 10.15-10.30am: 10.15am News. 10.30-10.45am: 10.30am News. 10.45-11.00am: 10.45am News. 11.00-11.15am: 11.00am News. 11.15-11.30am: 11.15am News. 11.30-11.45am: 11.30am News. 11.45-12.00am: 11.45am News. 12.00-12.15am: 12.00am News. 12.15-12.30am: 12.15am News. 12.30-12.45am: 12.30am News. 12.45-1.00am: 12.45am News. 1.00-1.15am: 1.00am News. 1.15-1.30am: 1.15am News. 1.30-1.45am: 1.30am News. 1.45-2.00am: 1.45am News. 2.00-2.15am: 2.00am News. 2.15-2.30am: 2.15am News. 2.30-2.45am: 2.30am News. 2.45-3.00am: 2.45am News. 3.00-3.15am: 3.00am News. 3.15-3.30am: 3.15am News. 3.30-3.45am: 3.30am News. 3.45-4.00am: 3.45am News. 4.00-4.15am: 4.00am News. 4.15-4.30am: 4.15am News. 4.30-4.45am: 4.30am News. 4.45-5.00am: 4.45am News. 5.00-5.15am: 5.00am News. 5.15-5.30am: 5.15am News. 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